Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-88-166
Friday
26 August 1988

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FBIS-SOV-88-166 *26 August 1988*

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U.S. To Withdraw First Pershings From FRG

LD2508113288 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Bonn August TASS—The United States is planning to start the withdrawal of first Pershing-II medium-range nuclear missiles from West Germany from September 2 this year under the Soviet-American INF Treaty, the West German newspaper HEILBRONNER STIMME said today.

The newspaper specifies that the first nine missile units assigned to the Fourth Battalion, Ninth Brigade of the field artillery of the U.S. Armed Forces are going to be withdrawn from the Heilbronn Base.

A public dismantlement of the Pershing-II missile launchers is scheduled to be held at the Pershing missiles technical service centre in Hausen, Frankfurt am Main.

Commentator on Change in Attitudes After INF

LD2508202488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Excerpts] A group of Soviet military inspectors today carried out an examination of the NATO nuclear missile base in Comiso, Sicily. Here is my colleague Viktor Levin to comment on this report:

[Levin] You must agree that we have already become accustomed to such reports and regard them as quite commonplace. [passage omitted]

People get accustomed remarkably quickly to things that only recently seemed miraculous. Just ask yourselves whether you could have imagined, not 5 but even 3 years ago, that in the summer of 1988 the two largest world powers would start destroying their latest intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. At that time, concluding such a treaty appeared to be a desire far removed from reality. Yet now the missiles are being blown up, and as a result—and military experts are quite unanimous on this—security is growing. Everyone has benefited, it turns out. It cannot be denied that the political climate in the world has changed. That is why, warmed by the rays of hope that have become a reality, we regard the news of reciprocal visits of inspectors to missile bases as something quite ordinary.

In the meantime, it would not be amiss to recall that events of historic significance are taking place. The treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles has not only been signed and ratified, but it is already being implemented and obligations are being met. Disarmament is moving from the realm of dreams and utopias to the realm of reality. When I saw a cable from Oslo today saying that Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan are seriously being considered for nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize for the signing of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, I thought to myself that the conferment of this award would be justified.

U.S. Brings Violation Charges to ABM Talks

LD2508162288 Moscow World Service in English 1110 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Soviet and American representatives in Geneva are discussing compliance with the 1972 ABM Treaty. The first plenary session is on Thursday. [passage omitted] The American delegation brought to Geneva a packet of charges to accuse the Soviet Union of breaching the treaty. Are there grounds for that? Yuriy Solton explains:

The Americans' major charge is the construction of a Soviet radar near the city of Krasnoyarsk. This is alleged to be a missile attack warning facility. But that is a pure invention. The Krasnoyarsk radar is designed to trace objects in space, so it's outside the ABM Treaty's terms. American congressmen were able to see this for themselves as they had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with that facility. Besides, full data with technical characteristics on the radar has been officially given to the American side. [passage omitted]

If you remember, there had been no special problems with observing the ABM Treaty before the Strategic Defense Initiative was proclaimed in March 1983. Problems appeared when the Pentagon got down to putting the SDI—or Star Wars—program into practice. And this project provides for placing an antiballistic missile into space. The American Department of Defense has officially recommended either a new broader interpretation of the treaty which distorts its essence or the total renunciation of the accord.

When General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan met in Washington last December they agreed in principle that a 50-percent reduction in Soviet and American strategic offensive arms now being discussed was possible only if the ABM Treaty was observed within a certain term as it was signed in 1972. Now the Americans are looking for pretexts to get around this understanding. That is the only interpretation of the far-fetched charges against the USSR. Further nuclear arms reductions are being put at risk for the sake of SDI.

U.S. Expert Asserts Krasnoyarsk 'No Threat'

LD2408222088 Moscow TASS in English 2204 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Washington August 24 TASS—The U.S. Administration is using the dispute around the Soviet radar station near Krasnoyarsk as a pretext for torpedoing the Soviet-American treaty on the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems. A statement to this effect has been made here by Spurgeon Keeny, president of the Arms Control

Association, former deputy director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. His statement has been timed to the start in Geneva of the scheduled examination of the effects of the ABM Treaty held once in five years.

The head of the influential public organization, which includes arms control experts, among them former government figures emphasised that the Krasnoyarsk radar station is "no threat" to the national security of the USA. He noted that the administration has deliberately chosen an extremely confrontational approach to that problem. As the AP agency said, President Reagan authorised the U.S. delegation to charge the USSR in the course of the discussion of a "material violation" of the Soviet-American treaty. The claims of a material violation, the American expert said in that connection, can be put forward by a country only in case it is seeking justification for a suspension or cancelling of the ABM Treaty. This may serve as a detonator of a series of events which will have very great consequences.

Keeny simultaneously drew attention to the fact that the USSR had made a whole number of positive steps concerning the Krasnoyarsk radar station by allowing U.S. representatives to visit it.

In his turn, former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Ralph Earle said that the Krasnoyarsk radar station by no means undermines the ABM Treaty. He urged the administration to heed the rule of reason.

Commentary on Geneva ABM Review Meeting
OW2608021088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2300 GMT 24 Aug 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast; Yuriy Rostov commentary]

[Text] A meeting of USSR and U.S. representatives to review the treaty on limiting ABM systems has opened in Geneva.

[Rostov] Hello, comrades. Meetings to review the treaty are held every 5 years, and there have already been two since the treaty came into effect in 1972. The main issue at the current meeting is the problem of the so-called broad interpretation of the ABM Treaty.

You will recall that this broad interpretation appeared when President Reagan announced the Strategic Defense Initiative. The 1972 treaty prohibits the establishment of ABM defenses on the entire territory of the country. SDI is precisely this kind of system, and its deployment would mean rejection of the treaty. At the moment, deployment of SDI is an issue for the future. More pertinent to the White House is the problem of testing already existing components of this system. These tests are also banned by the treaty, but despite this obvious fact the Republican administration began denying it. This became known as the broad American interpretation.

Presently you do not hear much about the discussions that took place in the United States at the end of the 1960's. At that time a group of military officials proposed the establishment of an ABM system over the entire territory of the United States. For this system to be reliable, there had to be at least 10 antiballistic missiles for every missile at the enemy's disposal. The Soviet Union and the United States at the time already had an approximately equal number of nuclear weapon carrier vehicles, and the establishment of an ABM defense system would have meant an increase by a factor of 11 in the U.S. nuclear potential.

Would this have led to an increase in security? Hardly. After all, to overcome this defense system it would simply be necessary to increase the number of offensive missiles. The impractical nature of the idea of a global ABM defense system became evident by the beginning of the seventies, and so the United States finalized the ABM Treaty.

The ensuing years saw rapid progress in military technology. For example, combat lasers, the basis of SDI, appeared. This is a fundamentally new weapon. It is obvious, nevertheless, that substituting the nuclear warheads with lasers will not increase the stability of the system itself. The result of SDI will be a new spiral in the arms race. Presently the White House has forgotten the conclusions reached at the end of the 1960's. It is obvious, however, that the Republican administration's policy of undermining the ABM Treaty is condemned by the majority of Americans. This is the reason the Democratic candidate Dukakis and many U.S. congressmen oppose SDI.

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry News Briefing

Denies Soviets Shelling Kabul

LD2508202388 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Excerpt] A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists on current issues in Soviet foreign policy was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, spoke at the briefing. Devoting a great deal of attention to the Afghan situation, he said:

[Begin Gerasimov recording] The armed opposition continues its bombardment of Afghan population centers. On 22 August two rockets were fired on Kabul; on 23 August two explosions occurred in Kabul. All this is, of course, the work of the rebels. Yesterday's WASHINGTON TIMES published a long article that cites alleged witnesses, and in particular a 13-year-old boy, to the effect that the Afghan capital is being bombarded by Soviet troops. The article says that in a week in July, 100 civilians in the Afghan capital died as a result of rockets fired on Kabul. In other words, it is admitted that the bombardment is directed against the civilian population.

As support for the claim that the bombardment is allegedly being carried out by Soviet troops, the report cites a statement that administrative buildings and such buildings as the Presidential Palace and the Internal Affairs Ministry were allegedly damaged in the bombardment. In actual fact, the rockets are falling where they please. For instance, rockets have landed not far from the Soviet Embassy, as a result of which several vehicles were destroyed. A rocket also hit the building housing the chief Soviet military adviser.

Thus, we have already rebutted this nonsensical story about Soviet rockets being fired on Kabul. Of course it makes no sense for us to fire on Kabul. I am just citing this as an example, as one episode in the war of slander and rumor, the psychological war, that the rebels are engaging in. Regrettably, the acts of terrorism against Afghan civilians are for some reason not being condemned by spokesmen for, say, the U.S. Administration, which is very concerned about the Afghan situation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Notes Afghan 'War of Mines'

LD2508142488 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1327 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Moscow, 25 Aug (TASS)—"An example of a war with the aid of rumors" is being waged by the armed opposition in Afghanistan. This is what Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, called the report which appeared on 24 August in THE WASHINGTON TIMES in which, referring to "eyewitnesses," it says that the Afghan capital was allegedly being shelled by Soviet troops. [passage omitted]

However, Gennadiy Gerasimov continued, for some reason the armed opposition's terrorist actions against Afghan civilians are not being condemned abroad. There they say that the limited contingent of Soviet troops in Afghanistan continues to lay minefields. In this connection the USSR Foreign Ministry representive reported some additional data concerning the "war of mines."

Since 1980, Soviet sappers have removed 237,737 mines planted by the Afghan armed opposition, including 33,983 antitank mines and 4,818 land mines. Over the same period, 180,274 mines were captured from bases, warehouses, and convoys of the armed opposition, and destroyed. This is where the real threat of the "war of mines" against the civilian population of Afghanistan lies, G. Gerasimov stressed.

Terms Israeli Policy 'Ruthless'

LD2508130088 Moscow TASS in English 1246 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—"The Israeli authorities have been methodically resorting for more than eight months to the ruthless treatment of the Palestinian people who challenged the illegal occupation of their lands and a system of continuous repressions", says a statement of a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman read out at a briefing here today by Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The U.N. Security Council has demanded on more than one occasion that Israel observe generally recognized standards of the international law and Provision IV of the 1949 Geneva Convention, that it stop the flagrant violation of human rights, specifically refrain from the illegal deportations, the representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry said. The Soviet Union voted for all those resolutions. However, Tel Aviv continues to ignore in a haughty and cynical manner the protests which are getting more and more insistent all over the world against lawlessness and bloodshed on Israeli-occupied lands.

The continuation by Tel Aviv of a policy of confrontation, including with regard to Palestinians, does not bring closer the hour of peace on the ancient land of the Middle East. On the contrary, it only aggravates problems of the peoples inhabiting it and, in the first place, of the Israeli people themselves, the statement pointed out.

"Today it is clear practically to all, and we hope that Israel will also understand it soon, that the way to peace in the Middle East goes through the convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, and five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. It is only in this way, on an equitable

basis, that a solution can be found that would observe the balance of interests of all the sides and would guarantee peace for a long perspective", Gennadiy Gerasimov said.

Criticizes Tokyo's Defense Plans

LD2508210188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] A briefing on current issues in international politics took place today at the Press Center of the USSR Foreign Ministry. Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said, among other things:

[Begin Gerasimov recording] A few days ago the Japanese cabinet approved another white paper on defense published by the National Defense Agency. The content of that publication was, to put it mildly, bewildering, and not only for us but also for many Japanese, judging from the press—as if the climate had not changeed, as if it were the mid-fifties now and not the late eighties.

The white paper totally ignores the nascent positive changes in the international situation and progress at disarmament talks. It repeats the pronouncements of the past years about the immutability of the military situation in the world and about the Soviet threat. The broad opportunities that have opened up in the field of disarmament in conjunction with the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on Eliminating Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and the hopes associated with the talks on halving strategic offensive weapons of the two countries are being passed over in silence. Neither is there a single word about the role Japan could play toward normalizing the international situation.

Is there any sense now in starting again the dispute with the white paper, refuting again the fabrications concerning the Soviet Union's evil designs in the Pacific and concerning some sort of domination we are supposed to have there, all of which has already been refuted on numerous occasions? I can refer those who are interested to the article by Lieutenant General Lobov, first deputy chief of staff of the USSR Armed Forces, which was published on 14 June in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. This article analyzes the real correlation of the naval forces in the Asia-Pacific region during its development, as well as demonstrates who in reality continues to build up naval might in the area.

Coming back to the white paper, it is evident that the task of its authors was far from that of establishing the truth, but was rather to justify the strengthening of the Japanese-U.S. military union and the building up of Japan's military potential, and to do this by any argument at hand, even if it was false. Such attempts appear especially unseemly now that one can observe the growing tendency to search for ways to reduce senseless military expenditures practically in all principal countries of both East and West. The Japanese military agency is clearly swimming against the current. [end recording]

Turkish, RSA, Sudanese Events

LD2508144788 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—"Positive pronouncements of Turkey's new Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz about Soviet-Turkish relations attracted attention in the Soviet Union. He pointed to a great progress achieved in the development of these relations of late", Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing here today.

"There's no denying that we are pleased with these pronouncements of the Turkish foreign minister which attest to a sound and realistic approach to the construction of relations with our country and to the striving to create a political climate suiting this", the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"There is concern in our country over the deterioration of Nelson Mandela's health who has been kept in prison in South Africa for over a quarter of a century now," he went on to say. "We hold that the South African Government should show humanism and mercy and immediately release this outstanding son of Africa without any conditions attached".

Gennadiy Gerasimov said that it is with concern and compassion that Soviet people received reports from the Sudan about grave natural calamity that befell that country and caused loss of life and destruction. He said that the USSR Council of Ministers sent condolences in connection with those tragic events to the prime minister of the Sudan and the Sudanese people, while the Union of Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent societies sent 100 thousand roubles worth consignment of necessities as relief to the population affected by the natural calamity. A second consignment of goods for relief, worth 200 thousand roubles, is prepared for shipment.

Answering the question of a journalist if there is any new information about the destiny of Wallenberg, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted that as it was established by the Soviet authorities, that Swedish citizen died, of which the Swedish side was officially notified.

A representative of the Hungarian television asked about relations between Romania and Hungary. "We proceed from the view that both countries are prepared to discuss the outstanding questions at bilateral talks, of which they declared at the summit level more than once", Gennadiy Gerasimov said. "It is hoped in the Soviet Union that these talks will be held and will lead to mutually acceptable results".

Skalkin Reviews Past Week's International Events

PM2408102588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
21 Aug 88 First Edition p 4

[Oleg Skalkin "International Review": "The World Last Week"]

[Text] A landmark was reached in the political settlement of the situation concerning Afghanistan at the start of last week: Half of the Soviet military contingent had been withdrawn from the country. At the end of the week the guns on the Iran-Iraq front fell silent. And, although international life between Monday and Saturday did not stand still, these two events in many ways represent the essence of the changes taking place in this life and are, so to speak, their quintessence.

"The summer of 1988 has unexpectedly opened up prospects of peace," the London newspaper THE TIMES wrote in this connection. "One forms the impression that the general desire for international concord is gradually making an impact on long-standing conflicts, and that this could lead to an end to these conflicts." THE NEW YORK TIMES even waxed lyrical: "The globe has felt the warmth of peace...." But for it, too, the move away from confrontation on the fronts of international politics and toward cooperation and collaboration has been unexpected, almost a thunderbolt from the sky. "Is the world doing something right," the newspaper asked, "or is this a mere coincidence, something impossible to control and related to the favorable positions of the planets?"

THE NEW YORK TIMES is, of course, affecting naivety and working on its reading public. It is obviously aware that an alarmed mankind is not looking to the secrets of astrology to find answers to the most burning issues facing our thermonuclear age, when the fate of each and every one of us now has a common denominator: Survival is possible only if everyone survives—therefore everyone must survive. Therefore, it seems to me that this "general desire for international concord" is gradually sobering even the hottest heads and ultimately leading to real results. [This and subsequent variations are from the Second Edition of Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 August, which also publishes Oleg Skalkin's "International Review." The PRAVDA Second Edition version renders the preceding sentence as follows: "Therefore, it seems to me that this 'general desire for international concord' is gradually sobering even the hottest heads."]

Returning to the withdrawal of 50,000 Soviet internationalist servicemen from Afghanistan, the Western press is in a hurry to award prizes for the roles played by the sides at the talks for resolving one of the most complex and painful of regional conflicts. We would not argue with this unobjective judgment (we would consider it an honor!) if the deliberate exaggeration of the U.S. contribution to the course of events had not sometimes been used to extol the policy of acting from a position of strength and all its attributes. Oh, how difficult many people are finding it to abandon their archaic cliches and tune into the new thinking. An article by Jeane Kirkpatrick in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES on the events in this review sows the seed of doubt: "The peace that has broken out does not, alas, bring what it seems to bring...."

"Moscow Is Keeping Its Word" [subhead]

It is not hard to imagine the kind of feelings that are now overwhelming the knights of the "cold war" and confrontation. But world public opinion is not with them. The withdrawal of half of the Soviet military contingent from Afghanistan in precise conformity with the Geneva agreements has been greeted throughout the world with great satisfaction. UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has expressed satisfaction on this score and thanked the Afghan and Soviet Governments for their help and and for their cooperation with the United Nations. "Moscow is keeping its word," the newspapers are saying. This acknowledgment reflects a high appraisal of Soviet foreign policy—the embodiment of the new thinking. [The PRAVDA Second Edition version omits the preceding sentence.]

The results of the first 3 months of a political settlement of the situation concerning Afghanistan are summed up in a recently published statement by the Soviet Government. The views and appraisals it contains are fully shared by the Afghan side. Many documents coming from Kabul in this connection have been cited by us and are well known. The Soviet and Afghan stand concerning the "Geneva package" has been presented in a frank and reliable manner, which is evidence of its correctness and strength.

The Soviet servicemen, President Najibullah recently reminded people, did not come to Afghanistan to occupy the country or to gain political or military advantages. They came to help the progressive forces in our awakened Afghan society defend the borders of their fatherland and uphold the sovereign right of the people to follow their own special course in history.

This mission in the land of Afghanistan is now being concluded with honor. In the provinces from which the Soviet units have withdrawn, people's power and the Afghan Army are in control of the situation. Attacks by armed opposition forces are being repelled. The Geneva agreements are removing the external factors in the "Afghan problem" and the Afghans have always been ready to decide their domestic affairs independently. What it is appropriate to point out is this. The accord was reached in Geneva at talks which had lasted for 6 long years. If Pakistan and the United States had agreed earlier to make the pledges they ultimately made, the withdrawal of Soviet troops could also have begun earlier. I am quite prepared to allow that under certain circumstances, it could make more vigorous progress—in other words, if our partners treated the fulfillment of

the accords with the same exactness and respect as do the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. One can only regret that in reality this is not the case and that much of what is undertaken and organized from Karachi—of which the Americans must at least be well informed—is impeding a solution to the conflict. Indeed, how much can you try the patience of the other participants in the settlement? [The PRAVDA Second Edition version renders the preceding two sentences as follows: "...Soviet Union and Afghanistan. But their thoughts lie in a quite different direction. The nature of these thoughts is revealed by the warning given to Pakistan by the United States following the death of President Ziaul Haq in the air catastrophe. Apparently, if, under the changed circumstances, Islamabad suddenly changes its mind about transferring U.S. weapons to Afghan rebel forces, U.S.-Pakistani relations could deteriorate. The Indian UNI news agency which relayed this report quotes a statement by White House spokesmen broadcast on ABC Television."]

At present, Pakistan still regards the Geneva agreements as a one-way street. The obligations stemming from these agreements are being ignored beneath the din of high-flown talk about the desire for good relations with neighboring countries, including the Soviet Union. At the same time, every night dozens of trucks cross the Pakistani border, carrying arms and ammunition into Afghanistan, including long-range "BM-40" missiles intended for shelling Kabul. Other measures are also being taken, the explanation for which lies in the selfish interests of the Pakistani ruling elite and their Afghan proteges. [The PRAVDA Second Edition version omits the preceding sentence.] They are gambling on overthrowing the government in Kabul.

What is Pakistan counting on by sowing this wind, and what does it seek to gain by supporting right up to the hilt the most extreme wing of the Afghan armed opposition? Is it not appropriate in this connection to generally discuss the role played by Pakistan of its own volition (of its own volition only?!) in this region? After all, it does not have a normal relationship with India. The latter bears a grudge against Karachi for training Sikh terrorists, at whose hands innocent people are being killed in the Punjab. Secure and supplied with arms at their secret bases, they are able to move across the border. And, as we can see, this is done on a fairly substantial scale. The Indian Government has been forced to take expensive measures to totally close off the border with Pakistan. Karachi has a strange idea of good neighborliness.

Hopeful Signs [subhead]

The 42d session of the UN General Assembly in New York, which has specially resumed work, has been discussing the question of financial support for the work of the group of military observers monitoring the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq. The necessary decisions were made promptly and with total unanimity. This not only showed a universal understanding of the monstrous price paid by those directly involved in the conflict. A role was also played by a quality new to international life—new thinking—which creates a nonconfrontational approach to problems.

The United Nations has always had a unique peacemaking potential, of which the Soviet Union has constantly reminded people when defending this international organization against attack. In the nuclear-space age, the role played by the United Nations as an instrument of peace has become stronger, and the practice of new thinking has extended the limits of the possible in its activity to an extraordinary degree. Today this seems to be clear even to those who, to put it mildly, for many years have not contributed to the work of the United Nations, have tied its hands, plotted against the independence of its actions, set their hopes on it becoming bankrupt, and in fact done the groundwork for this. In putting pressure on this authoritative international organization, the United States has until recently refused to pay its share of contributions and has accumulated a debt of $0.5 billion. But this difficult period seems to be passing. Today, according to NEWSWEEK, the United Nations "is unexpectedly basking in glory."

Again there is that sacramental word "unexpectedly." This is despite the fact that there is nothing mysterious about the United Nations' current surge in popularity, and that we are seeing the results of a great deal of hard work. This is mainly reflected in Afghanistan. The Geneva agreements on a political settlement of the situation concerning this country are the result of sustained negotiations with the mediation of a representative of the UN secretary general. Last week observers from this international organization embarked on their monitoring functions along the entire length of the 1,200-km Iran-Iraq front. Yesterday morning the cease-fire agreement came into force. At the same time, Iranian and Iraqi representatives are gathering in Geneva for direct talks under the aegis of Perez de Cuellar. It is sad that this has become possible only after very heavy losses for these two developing states. The 8-year war has taken a toll of more than 1 million lives, and the economic damage it has caused amounts to $400 billion, to say nothing of the danger of the internationalization of the conflict, which has hung over the world like the sword of Damocles. The appearance of the UN secretary general's name on the list of candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize, which has recently been reported by Western newspapers, is being regarded as a sign of international recognition of and encouragement for his work and increased prestige for the United Nations. Hopes that the United Nations will fruitfully serve mankind in the elimination of other "hot spots" can be seen as an appraisal of its work. Its mediatory potential is now being applied to the situation around Cambodia. A forthcoming visit by Perez de Cuellar to Geneva for talks on the Cyprus problem has been announced. Namibia and Western Sahara are waiting their turn. The United Nations seems to have gotten its second wind.

The New Orleans Paradox [subhead]

Probably not only to pump some adrenalin into international life in the close of the political season, the U.S. press—followed by the European press—has recently begun to play up the "news" taken from goodness knows where of the possibility of another summit meeting—a farewell meeting, to quote U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT—between President Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev. The magazine even seems to be informed on the time of this event, linking it to the upcoming scheduled UN General Assembly session. Official denials from Moscow and Washington did not immediately dispel the newspaper fog. Evidently someone needs to play on the good feeling left in people on the whole by the previous meetings between the Soviet and U.S. leaders, after which international security has become more stable and the prospects of peace brighter.

The idea of improving relations between the Soviet Union and the United States and the move away from confrontation and toward cooperation in disarmament and other spheres are still very attractive and are having an impact on people's hearts and minds. U.S. public opinion supports the course of dialogue at the talks: Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington, Moscow. So it was not by chance (nothing happens by chance in U.S. politics close to the presidential election) that George Bush, who was officially proclaimed a presidential candidate at the Republican convention, said to an interviewer: "... I intend to regularly hold summit meetings with the Kremlin if I become president...."

The declarations addressed to the U.S. public by the Republican candidate sound one note while his addresses to fellow party members sound another. This is particularly noticeable when they are intended for the ears of the party's conservative wing, which is very imposing and influential. The latter still uses the old formulas that were broken in during the "cold war" years. Strains in relations with the Soviet Union has always worked for the conservatives. And in this sense, as a political observer from the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE wrote with conviction, Ronald Reagan seems to have deprived conservatives of their usual trump cards by striving for peaceful relations with the Soviet Union....

Well, Bush's partner in the campaign for the White House is millionaire Dan Quayle, renowned for his tough approach to relations with the Soviet Union and his soft attitude toward the "Star Wars" program. The foreign policy section of the party platform, just recently approved at the Republican convention in New Orleans, contains the full arsenal of the policy of global intervention, including such antiquated theses as peace "from a position of strength," nuclear deterrence as a global means of containment, the development [razrabotka] and rapid, compulsory deployment of the Strategic Defense Initiative, support for counterrevolutionary "freedom fighters" everywhere, and so on and so forth.

Against this background, promises of rapidly completing work on a 50-percent cut in Soviet and U.S. nuclear strategic offensive weapons do not look very hopeful.

But this is the paradox. The Democratic presidential candidate, Michael Dukakis, has reason to insist—as he does—that in his views on U.S.-Soviet relations he stands much closer to President Reagan's present stance on these than does the latter's protege, Bush. The promises made by the Democratic candidate on specific problems of these relations sound more purposeful and go further.

Thanks to President Ronald Reagan and General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, he says, we have what is probably the most favorable opportunity to make the world a safer place. This aim can be achieved by cutting strategic nuclear arsenals by 50 percent or more and also by placing a barrier in the way of the arms race on earth and in space....

We would not venture to predict how election tactics will affect real diplomatic practice once the new master is installed in the White House, or how he will respond to the imperious challenge thrown down to the world by our age. But it is clear that mankind's path to immortality now lies in nuclear disarmament, international cooperation, and the building of a nonnuclear, violence-free world. There is no way around this.

Foreign Ministry 'Expert' Previews CSCE Talks

LD2508102988 Moscow TASS in English 0836 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—By Soviet Foreign Ministry expert Yuvenaliy Polyakov:

Representatives of the states participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe will resume their meeting in the Austrian capital on August 29.

The delegations from 35 nations will sum up extended debates of defining the future of the European process and complete the drafting of the meeting's final document.

Issues of humanitarian cooperation—human contacts, information exchange, culture and education—are central to the conference agenda.

The discussion of humanitarian aspects was the most complex debate going on at the Vienna meeting.

The USSR and other socialist countries favour broad cooperation in the humanitarian areas covering various spheres of the so-called human dimension of the all-European process.

The West seeks to narrow the humanitarian issues to contacts and movement of people, problems of the activity of the so-called Helsinki groups, religious communities and so on.

The number of issues on which there is no agreement has been substantially reduced. As of today, there are no differences on roughly 70 items out of 85 in the field of humanitarian cooperation.

The section comprises practically in full sub-sections on culture and education. Work is under way on seven-eight unresolved issues under clauses covering human contacts and information exchange.

The participants in the conference will look for agreement at the forthcoming round on issues of emigration, measures with regard to hostile broadcasting, responsibility of journalists, and other issues.

The meeting has entered the final leg. It is now the responsibility and realism, political will and desire to find mutually acceptable solutions of its participants that will determine whether the forum will produce an extensive programme for promoting security and cooperation in Europe.

Asia-Pacific Meeting Set for Vladivostok
LD2508132988 Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—TASS diplomatic correspondent reports:

The international meeting "Asia-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, Cooperation" will be held in Vladivostok from September 30 to October 3 on the initiative of the USSR Academy of Sciences. This was announced here today at a briefing held at the Press Centre of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Some 100 scientists, politicians, public figures, cultural personalities and journalists from more than 30 countries of Asia, America, Australia, Europe and Oceania are supposed to take part in it.

It is pointed out in the Soviet diplomatic circles that the process of radical renewal of Soviet foreign policy in the Asia-Pacific region started with the speech made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in Vladivostok in July 1986. Much has been done since that time.

The Soviet Union decided to eliminate its medium- and shorter-range missiles in the Asian part of the country within the framework of Soviet-American agreements. Geneva accords on a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, the settlement of the Kampuchean conflict which is about to begin and the reaching of a long-awaited ceasefire agreement between Iran and Iraq made a positive impact on a political atmosphere in the Asia-Pacific region.

However, the situation in the region continues to be complicated and unstable. Soviet diplomacy regards it as its major task to spread to the region the positive trends that emerged recently in international affairs in order to create most favourable conditions for the consolidation of security, for a climate of mutual respect and all-round international cooperation.

The Soviet Union is positive that no one should remain aloof when it comes to the destinies of peace and progress in the region. Much will depend in this respect not only on the USSR, but also on the activity of all the countries of the region without exception.

Pentagon Stages NATO Computer War Game
LD2508104788 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 25 Aug 88

["Computer Wargames in the Pentagon and Their Background"—TASS headline]

[Text] Berlin 25/8/TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports:

GDR leading newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND on Thursday comments on a six-day computer "war" with the Warsaw Treaty recently conducted in the U.S. Defence Department at a 500,000-dollar cost.

The commentary says: "Pentagon officials do not at all think that NATO should eventually respond to the East's disarmament offers and finish a disarmament concept of its own, the lack of which has long been deplored by Western politicians. On the contrary, NATO is to intensify the arms build-up, concentrating on new kinds of arms—such as Stealth bombers and air-based cruise missiles.

"These plans are not only an attempt to stop further disarmament, they even undo what has been achieved by undermining the Soviet-American INF Treaty on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles", the newspaper concludes.

United States & Canada

Dukakis Criticizes SDI in West German Paper

LD2508190088 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Bonn August 25 TASS—Presidential candidate from the Democratic Party Michael Dukakis criticised the "Star Wars" programme.

The implementation of the SDI programme will only whip up the arms race since the emergence of a new system of armaments entails an adequate answer of the other side, he said in an interview to the West German NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG.

The presidential candidate holds that the "Star Wars" programme is a technological illusion, that it cannot be implemented in the foreseeable future. The programme cannot strengthen the security of America, nor of Europe. One of the negative consequences of the plan of the militarisation of outer space proclaimed by President Reagan in 1983 was the further build-up of the nuclear forces of the USSR and the USA, Dukakis noted. The United States should not squander billions of dollars on a system which nobody needs.

Dukakis positively assessed the Soviet Union's proposals in the area of conventional arms reduction and emphasised that the NATO bloc should thoroughly study them. He said that jointly with the Warsaw Treaty Organization the ways should be sought for the removal of the danger of an outbreak of chemical war.

Colonel Gives Impressions of U.S. Visit

PM2508114988 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Aug 88 First Edition p 3

[Article by Colonel V. Pogrebenkov under the rubric "From the Travel Notebook": "'The Russians... Have Arrived'"]

[Text] A trip to the United States is a memorable event for a Soviet citizen. A trip as part of a Soviet military delegation given the opportunity to visit a modern U.S. aircraft carrier and three military bases belonging to different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces is an unprecedented event. Perhaps that is why I would like to partly reproduce not only the chronicle of the visit itself but also the thoughts and feelings that were with me on this trip. To be honest, they have not yet left me after the trip.

Temperatures in Washington were at a record high for the century when the Soviet Il-62 airliner carrying the Soviet military delegation landed at Andrews Air Force Base. The visit began the next day with a solemn ceremony to greet Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, head of the Soviet military delegation, at the main entrance to the Pentagon. Is it conceivable to picture, most U.S. newspapers wrote the following day, a Soviet marshal being greeted solemnly with an honor guard, national anthems, and a 19-gun salute at the walls of the Pentagon, where plans of war against the Soviet Union have been elaborated. A few years ago this would have seemed unbelievable. Today it is an outright fact.

In the office of Admiral W. Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where everyone was invited after the solemn ceremony, a collection of military headgear holds pride of place. This collection is the admiral's hobby and his pride and joy. It numbers approximately 100 items of headgear, including a Soviet fur hat; God knows how it came to be in the collection of a high-level Pentagon official. In order for this piece from Russia not to feel lonely, the guests added to the office collection a nautical souvenir—a copy of the headdress worn by Grand Prince Constantine, who was inspector of the Russian Imperial Navy in the early 19th century, and also the legendary Soviet peakless cap and an admiral's service cap.

We moved from the office of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff into the "tank." This is the name given in Pentagon jargon to the small conference room where the chiefs of staff of the branches of the Armed Forces meet and where the press, naturally, are never admitted. The head of the Soviet military delegation talked about the 19th all-union party conference and its results at the request of the top U.S. military leader, digressing from the previously arranged program for the visit.

Then began the official talks, which were to go on in effect throughout the entire visit but solely in an unofficial atmosphere. Four groups of problems were under discussion—of varying magnitude and complexity but of equal importance for attaining mutual understanding and trust: USSR and U.S. military doctrines, contacts in the military field, questions of elaborating the appropriate principles and a mechanism for preventing dangerous military incidents, and certain arms control problems.

Without supplanting the work of the delegations conducting the talks in Geneva and Vienna, the chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and the chairman of the U.S. Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff exchanged opinions on these and other questions of mutual concern to the sides. Disputes cropped up, sometimes very acute disputes. But what else could one expect? For a quest was under way for truth, set against the background of differences in views of the world and how it should be organized. The task is not to completely refute or totally accept the stance of one's opponent. It is important to understand this stance and clarify the roots of concern. Here the partners in the talks displayed impressive patience and skill in listening to one another. Disagreements remained on many fundamental issues. Agreement was reached in some areas.

Talks lasting 2 hours and a 30-minute press conference in the Pentagon were followed by the laying of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. This cemetery was founded in 1864

on land that previously belonged to General Robert E. Lee, a hero of the Civil War. More than 200,000 servicemen who died in various wars and U.S. Armed Forces veterans are buried here.

The most frequented spot in the cemetery is the area where the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier—a block-shaped monument—has been located for more than 50 years. The monument bears the following inscription: "Here lies a U.S. soldier crowned with glory, known only to God."

At Camp Lejeune in North Carolina representatives of the 200,000 Marines—perhaps the most prestigious branch of the Armed Forces—demonstrated their combat training. During the well-rehearsed display we chatted with our neighbor—a U.S. officer who spoke Russian quite fluently. I inquired where he had acquired such sound language skills. He remarked that it was his hobby, although that is not to say that it wasn't his professional duty too. At one time he was a guide at a U.S. exhibition in Moscow. Now he is able to keep up his knowledge of the language by listening to Soviet radio broadcasts and reading KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. On hearing of this, his chief remarked half in jest: "Watch out, if you read that newspaper a lot, you'll become a communist."

"Would you believe it! A Soviet marshal with his generals on a U.S. aircraft carrier!"—reports in local newspapers on the Soviet military delegation's visit to the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier "Theodore Roosevelt" in the Atlantic 150 km from the Norfolk naval base in Virginia, began with this kind of exclamation—exclamations that were surprisingly identical.

The carrier is impressive—in terms of its dimensions, armaments, and the firepower that was demonstrated. Here are a few figures to confirm this: The "Theodore Roosevelt" was launched 2 years ago; displacement approximately 100,000 metric tons; length more than 300 meters and width of flight deck approximately 80 meters. There are approximately 6,000 seamen and pilots and 95 aircraft on board the carrier. Aside from three galleys that supply the crew with food three times a day, there are three television stations on the aircraft carrier and one newspaper published on board—an arsenal of spiritual nourishment.

The combat aircrafts' takeoff and landing cannot fail to evoke respect for the U.S. pilots' supreme flying skill. It was obvious that the crew is proud of the product of military engineering that is embodied in this system for destroying man and his handiwork. Such pride was seen in the course of exercises carried out by the Marines and also by infantry troops in Fort Hood, Texas, and during an aircraft flying display and a visit to an intercontinental missile in a launch silo at Ellsworth Air Base, South Dakota. Whenever I spoke to American servicemen about their weapons and equipment, they all gave surprisingly similar answers. "I am proud of my equipment because it is the best in the world."

I think this kind of response is not so much the result of analysis and comparison as the consequence of well-organized military hype. Hype is omnipotent and all-pervasive. It takes the place of what we traditionally describe as clear agitation and propaganda. It is found in military symbolics and attributes.

As you come in to land you can see on the hangar at Ellsworth Air Base inscribed in letters 1-meter high the following legend—"PRIDE." Many aircraft at the base bear personalized identification marks. This means that each aircraft is named for someone or is symbolically dedicated to someone. For instance, one B-1B bomber bears the large garish inscription "Admiral W. Crowe—chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Ellsworth Air Base. Freedom 1" Another transport aircraft bears the emblem "Rosa Yankee-2" along with the names and ranks of all crew members. Thanks to this kind of publicity the aircraft psychologically becomes the personal property of the people who fly it. They have a different attitude to their own property.

Here's another example. A gold star (the accepted sign of 1,000 hours flying time) is sewn on the sleeve of a F-16 bomber pilot's flying suit along with the following inscription: "1,000 hours flown. F-16—Fighting Falcon."

In my opinion, the conversations with personnel were the most interesting part of the visit. There were no restrictions on this. I was struck by the unconstrained nature of the discussions and the outward democratism in relations between junior and senior ranks. It seemed to me that Admiral W. Crowe was excessively complimentary in his assessments of his subordinates. After a short report from a black sergeant, he went up to him, clapped him on the back in a brotherly fashion, and said: "You are the best representative of our wonderful country. Thank you!" This was repeated in various scenarios on several occasions. This assessment of one's work coming from the lips of the highest U.S. Armed Forces military official is rated highly by U.S. servicemen and seen as a particularly high reward.

After the exhibition exercises at the testing range in Fort Hood the leader of the Soviet military delegation asked the helicopter commander:

"How do you feel about us Soviet generals coming here to visit? Why is it that we have never come before and now have come all of a sudden?"

"I don't know why you've come," the U.S. pilot replied, "but I am sure that it is a good thing. I agree with it."

Here are some snippets of conversations over dinner in New York.

"Tell me," a member of the Soviet delegation asked a U.S. general, "will you carry on training your troops under the 'Aggressor' program and carrying out exercises

like 'Red Flag' and 'Top Gun'? In other words, isn't it time that you stopped deliberately cultivating the 'enemy image' of the Soviet Armed Forces?"

A slight smile appeared on the general's face.

"I think that there are no grounds for abandoning the program and the exercises conducted as part of it," he stated. "As for the potential enemy, combat readiness must be specific and purposeful. We cannot take...—there followed the name of an African country—as a potential enemy. That's the way to lower standards. In your place I would be proud that the U.S. Armed Forces has chosen the Soviet Army as the most powerful potential enemy."

So this opinion does exist. It is also a reality. It must be taken into consideration.

The 4th "Midgetman" Strategic Missile Wing. U.S. Lieutenant Nigel, an engineer commissioning and repairing the missiles, speaks to the leader of the Soviet military delegation. The lieutenant is a young woman, the mother of two children. Specialist Nigel explained clearly what she and the 36 men subordinate to her are doing.

"Tell me," the question followed, "don't the men under you treat you badly?"

"Oh, no sir. They are proud of me."

"Excuse me," a Soviet general entered into the conversation. "You have probably heard that the Soviet Union has pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. How do you feel about that?"

"I don't get involved in politics," Lieutenant Nigel replied confidently. "I just do my job. Allow me, sir, not to pass comment on what you have said."

The leadership of the U.S. Armed Forces, as they tried to show us, is proud of "their servicemen—men and women, soldiers and generals." They are delighted that their army is supposedly above politics. But is this true? It is very doubtful. The question can be asked in a different way: In our nuclear age is is this an advantage or disadvantage?

Siberian Delegation Visits Illinois Town

LD2608090788 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] New York August 26 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Mostovets reports:

The small city of Dixon, Illinois, met the Soviet delegation that arrived there Thursday with the posters "Peace on Earth" in English and Russian and also the flags of the USSR and the United States hoisted over houses. The Soviet delegation is led by the mayor of the Siberian town of Dikson. Both cities signed sister city arrangements early last year and the arrival of the Soviet delegation in Illinois is the first step towards establishing closer links between them.

The American city, which was named after its founder John Dixon who built a fort for first settlers on the River Rock in 1830, is typical of the Mid-West of the United States. Tourists have been visiting this city increasingly often in recent years. The city is the boyhood home of the current President Ronald Reagan with whose name people here link the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations. Speaking to local journalists, Nikolay Kardamyshev, mayor of Dikson, stressed that the arrival of the Soviet delegation was the result of an expansion of cultural ties between the two countries, that has shaped up.

The Soviet delegation will be the guests of the U.S. city of Dixon for a whole week. They will meet the city mayor, a descendant of its founder James Dixon, will tour the sights of the city, enterprises and agricultural farms.

James Dixon said he would wish very much the Soviet guests to get a better idea of life in the small city and feel its hospitality. Mutual visits and friendship between residents of the two cities should become an example of new relations between our countries. This is one more small step to an important goal of preserving peace, which cannot be attained without mutual understanding among ordinary people, James Dixon stressed.

Northeast Asia

Vorotnikov Greets Japanese Governors' Meeting

LD2508192388 Moscow TASS in English 1837 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—The Government of the Russian Federation hopes that the high representatives of local administration of the USSR and Japan who gathered in Moscow, will find ways of deepening cooperation in the most diverse areas, including the sphere of mutually advantageous trade and economic relations," [quotation mark as received] says a telegram of greetings by Vitaliy Vorotnikov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, to participants in the 10th meeting of chairmen of executive committees of soviets of people's deputies of the USSR's territories and regions and Japanese governors. A delegation of the National Council of Japanese Governors led by Shunichi Suzuki, chairman of the council and governor of Tokyo Prefecture, arrived in the Soviet Union to participate in its work.

"The meeting could play a positive role for possible unification of efforts aimed at strengthening security in the Far East, in the Pacific and at preserving peace on the

earth as a whole. The new political thinking which is becoming a determining factor in present-day political life, creates broad opportunities for this," reads the telegram further on.

Vladimir Vinogradov, foreign minister of the Russian Federation, and Toshiaki Muto, Japanese ambassador to the USSR, took part in the work of the meeting's first day.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Demichev Holds Talks With Cambodia's Chea Sim

LD2608110288 Moscow TASS in English 1047 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS—Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met in the Kremlin today with Chea Sim, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and chairman of Kampuchea's National Assembly.

The Kampuchean official is in the Soviet Union on a working visit as a special representative of Heng Samrin, general secretary of the PRPK Central Committee, and of the Politburo of the Party Central Committee.

In the conversation, the sides gave special attention to the situation relating to Kampuchea.

Chea Sim informed Demichev about the activity of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean working people on implementing the policy of national reconciliation and handling the complex problems facing the country.

He drew attention to the results of the informal meeting in Indonesia that were important for the further advancement and solution of the problem.

Four-party talks were held for the first time by Hun Sen, chairman of Kampuchea's Council of Ministers, and the leaders of opposition Khmer groups with the participation (at the second stage) of the representatives of two groups of Southeast Asian countries, Indochina and ASEAN.

The sides expressed the common view that the meeting was another step towards the political settlement of the Kampuchean problem, a stage in the development of dialogue with a view to finding solutions that would meet the aspirations of the Kampuchean people and facilitate the normalisation of the situation in Southeast Asia.

Initiatives advanced by Kampuchea, Laos and other sides and the mounting realism in handling the Kampuchean issue on the part of the countries concerned facilitated the productivity of the informal meeting in Indonesia.

Demichev emphasised that the USSR backed any constructive efforts directed at consolidating and developing the results of the Bogor meeting and facilitating and deepening positive processes in the Kampuchean settlement and its early transfer into the sphere of practical solution.

For its part, the USSR expressed the readiness to contribute, along with all other nations concerned, to the positive settlement of the situation relating to Kampuchea.

Demonstrations Continue in Burma 25 Aug

LD2508105488 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Tokyo August 25 TASS—About a million people were out in streets of Rangoon, Burma's capital, today, demanding that the one-party system be abrogated and a transitional government be formed. Mass demonstrations are also underway in other cities of the country. As was reported by official radio, the authorities responded to the demonstrators' demands and released this morning well-known politician Aung Ji and 11 other prominent reform seekers.

Aung Ji, 70, retired brigadier-general and once close associate of former leader Ne Win, wrote him at least five open letters, demanding sweeping economic transformations. He was arrested on July 28 on the instruction of Sein Lwin who replaced Ne Win in the post of the leader of the Burma Socialist Program Party. Thousands of people are believed to be killed in clashes between demonstrators and troops over 18 days of Sein Lwin's rule.

SRV's Nguyen Co Thach Ends Visit to Thailand

LD2608111288 Moscow TASS in English 1056 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Bangkok August 26 TASS—By TASS correspondent Boris Chekhonin:

Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs of the SRV, has ended his brief unofficial visit to Thailand. He met with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, Deputy Prime Minister Phichai Rattakun and Minister for Foreign Affairs Sitthi Sawetsila. Today before leaving for home the Vietnamese guest made an official statement to newsmen and answered their questions in the international Don Muang Airport.

He expressed profound gratification with the results of the "fruitful talks" with the Thai leaders. The point at issue, he said in particular, were practical measures to implement the recent statement of Chatchai Chunhawan on his intention to turn Indochina from a battlefield into a zone of trade. This statement of the head of the new Thai Government is a turning point not only in bilateral relations but also in the relations between all the Southeast Asian states. In that connection, Nguyen Co Thach noted, I offered the

prime minister to send a Vietnamese delegation to Bangkok to hold specific talks on the development of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

In the course of the meetings with Chatchai Chunhawan and especially with Sitthi Sawetsila, we also exchanged views on ways of ensuring a Kampuchean settlement and strengthening peace in Southeast Asia, the Vietnamese representative said. During the conversation with Phichai Rattakun, questions were examined of improving Vietnamese-Thai relations as a whole. I extended to the head of the cabinet, his deputy and the Thai minister for foreign affairs the invitations to go to Vietnam on an official visit. The invitations have been accepted, the time and other details of the visit are to be agreed upon through diplomatic channels, he said.

Briefs

New Zealand Communist Honored

Moscow August 25 TASS—It has been announced here today that the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet awarded the Order of Peoples' Friendship to George Jackson, a veteran of the New Zealand Communist movement, for his contribution to the development of friendship between the peoples of New Zealand and the USSR and on the occasion of his eightieth anniversary. [Text] [*LD2608014888 Moscow TASS in English 1303 GMT 25 Aug 88*]

Near East & South Asia

Iran-Iraq Gulf War Peace Talks Open in Geneva

LD2508185588 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Geneva August 25 TASS—The direct talks between Iran and Iraq started today at Geneva's Palais de Nations under the aegis of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The Iranian delegation at the talks is led by 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian foreign minister, the Iraqi delegation—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq.

Local analysts point out that the talks have become possible thanks to better relations between the USSR and the USA and the peace-making efforts by U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, which resulted in the fact that Iran and Iraq stopped combat operations and got down to settling the eight-year bloody conflict. They call attention to great importance of Resolution 598 of the U.N. Security Council for ending the Iran-Iraq war. It laid down a sound basis for settling the conflict. At the same time analysts believe that the talks between Iran and Iraq will be difficult and prolonged, since leaders of the two countries have different approaches to them.

Peace Talks Continue

LD2608101888 Moscow TASS in English 1008 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Geneva August 26 TASS—Today's meeting at the Palais des Nations in Geneva between the Iranian and Iraqi delegations with the participation of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar continued the talks between the two countries.

On its completion, as announced on Thursday, the U.N. secretary-general will hold separate meetings with each side.

U.S. Continues Gulf Policy of 'Force'

NC2608083688 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1800 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Mikhail Mayorev commentary]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Significant talks began in Geneva today, 5 days after the establishment of the cease-fire. UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, who has made great efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and bring the Iranians and Iraqis to the negotiating table, is not trying to convince anyone that a positive outcome will be achieved quickly. He is right. All that has accumulated over 8 years of the most savage and bloody war since World War II cannot be overcome within a few days.

If everything goes well in Geneva and both sides display realism and goodwill, then all the issues pertaining to ending the war can be practically solved. Only one significant issue lies outside the framework of Iran-Iraq relations. This issue can only be solved in Washington and only after an order is issued for the departure of the U.S. fleet from the Persian Gulf. However, such an order has not yet been given.

Geneva's clocks are ticking away the first second of the talks. However, Washington apparently continues to live in the era when diplomacy of force and pressure was paramount.

Much is being written today about wars in various parts of the world and the outlook for their solutions. The idea that each regional conflict should be turned into regional peace appeals greatly to me. May our common peaceful house be built from the total of these small calamities. What a beautiful idea. In my opinion, this idea applies fully to the Iran-Iraq war.

Daily Says Pakistan Obstructing Afghan Accords

PM2608111588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Aug 88 First Edition p 5

[P. Obotov article: "Islamabad Camouflage; Pakistani Authorities Oppose UN Mission"]

[Text] Islamabad—In the morning there were black clouds in the sky and it rained. Anyway, the streets were deserted, as if the place had died. Only a little old man,

comfortably settled at the gate of the house where I had stopped, continued to sit under a spreading tree. The rain did not seem to worry him. Deep in thought on the "transient nature of this earthly life," he livened up when he saw me, joyfully throwing up his wrinkled hand as a sign of welcome.

As I realized afterwards, the welcome gesture was meant not only for me but for the motorcyclist who was patiently waiting for my car, which was rounding the nearest turn, to accompany me on a tour of the city. Now and again I felt uncomfortable that I was given so much quite undeserved attention.

"That's their job," a colleague who had worked in Islamabad for more than a year reassured me.

The road northwest from Islamabad is forbidden not just to correspondents from Western news agencies. But apparently in vain. It is precisely thanks to them that we know about the increasing flow of trucks carrying arms traveling toward the Afghan border, the continuing unhampered "two-way traffic" of mujahidin military detachments, and about the urgent measures being taken to increase the armed groupings operating in Afghanistan. They also note instances of Pakistani officers and men taking part in combat operations against the Afghan Army on Afghan territory.

Of course, the Pakistani authorities are making enormous efforts to cut off access to such information. But you can't shut everyone's mouth.

Either because of the downpour that evening, or because of the darkness descending on the city, the motorcyclist disappeared somewhere at that point. And it was good timing. In the little reception room of a house in the very center of Islamabad, a person from Peshawar who was in the Pakistani capital at that time, a journalist and official from one of Pakistan's opposition parties, was awaiting me.

Introducing himself as Yar Muhammad, he shared his observations on the situation on the Afghan border.

In Peshawar, the "Alliance of Seven" headquarters of the Afghan opposition organizations continues to function very calmly. And the so-called "transitional government of the Afghan mujahidin" continues to be based in the same place.

"It is true," Yar Muhammad says, "that recently several mujahidin armed groupings have been rushed to the interior of Pakistan. Some weapons are also being transferred there. The remainder are either being sent to remote places or are well and truly hidden at Pakistani military bases where, naturally, "unauthorized persons are not admitted." This includes representatives of the UN goodwill mission.

In Islamabad I heard more than once about the difficulties and problems which the members of the UN goodwill mission are encountering in Pakistan. Their duties include assisting in the fulfillment of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan.

"Suffice it to say," Kudratullah Ahmadi, Afghan charge d'affaires ad interim in Pakistan, notes with bitterness, "that during the seven inspection trips which have already taken place, they have not managed to record a single instance of a breach of the Geneva agreements by Pakistan. But how can these be detected if the members of the UN goodwill mission are put in a dependent position?"

"Imagine," the Afghan diplomat continues: "We make a complaint to them concerning Pakistan's latest breach of the Geneva agreements, and the mission members consider it essential in this connection to visit this or that region. But this is not so simple. While their colleagues in Afghanistan are given helicopters and aircraft, the members of the goodwill mission in Pakistan are forced to content themselves with motor vehicles. And these are provided by the Pakistani side a minimum of 5 days after receiving the properly filed application. As a result, by the time the UN representatives reach their intended destination, there are of course no weapons or mujahidin there.

"In conversations with me, members of the goodwill mission," Kudratullah Ahmadi says, "complained more than once that they had never had to work under such conditions in any country in the world. They also cited instances of direct intimidation, when it was openly hinted that a trip to a particular region was far from 'safe.'"

When Pakistani Foreign Minister Yakub Khan returned to Islamabad after talks in Moscow, he once again stated that the UN observers have as yet seen no instances of breaches of the Geneva agreements on Afghanistan by the Pakistani side. And that is the truth. But the fact is that the mission members do not have a single instance at their disposal which testifies to Pakistan's fulfillment of its obligations.

During the whole of my stay in Islamabad, Benon Sevan, the leader of the UN goodwill mission to Pakistan, did not answer the telephone. The other members of the mission did not answer their telephones either. As it turned out, they did manage to secure a routine inspection tour. Will it be successful? That is the question.

Afghan Minister on Facilities for Returnees

LD2508194888 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul August 25 TASS—"Peace hotels" in border provinces, in Kabul and other major cities may receive this year a million repatriates. The necessary outlays are to be provided for the purpose, 'Abdul Ghafar Farahi, minister of repatriates' affairs, said in an interview with the TASS correspondent Oleg Kufmin. It is clear that

this would be difficult to achieve with our own efforts alone. So the assistance of the Soviet Union and the United Nations is of immense importance.

The refugees problem, 'Abdul Farahi went on, is being tackled on a comprehensive basis. The Interior and Defence Ministries, for instance, look after the safety of the repatriates in their movements inside Afghanistan, the Health Ministry provides medical workers and medicines, and the Ministries of Transport and Civil Aviation provide free passage. In a "peace hotel", the minister went on, a refugee receives the necessary documents, material assistance and passes a medical check-up. He is then sent to his native province or locality where local authorities provide him with a land plot and restore his formerly confiscated property to him. Over the past eighteen months since the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation 158,500 people have returned into the country. Lately many Afghans arrive through the Eslam Qal'eh checkpoint on the border with Iran. The explanation is that it is very difficult to get from Pakistani camps directly into Afghanistan. Many refugees get to the Afghan border clandestinely, through mountain paths and desert areas.

All our countrymen, forced into abroad by circumstances, must know that they are awaited back home, that they will get assistance and all the necessary conditions to return to peaceful life, 'Abdul Ghafar Farahi said in conclusion.

Messages Mark 45th Anniversary of Egyptian Ties

LD2508192888 Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Foreign Minister of the USSR, and Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of Egypt, have exchanged congratulatory messages in connection with the 45th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries, observed on August 26.

Shevardnadze's message said that the Soviet Union was pleased with the recent [words indistinct] towards improving and restoring the traditional high level of Soviet-Egyptian ties.

He expressed the hope that the positive tendency would prevail in the future as well for the benefit of the peoples of our countries, in the interests of universal peace.

The Egyptian foreign minister highly assessed the present-day level of relations between the two countries and favoured their further development for the benefit of Egypt and the Soviet Union.

His message emphasised that the Egyptian side stood for stepping up joint efforts in the [word indistinct] of establishing peace in the Middle East and all over the world.

Israeli Delegation Completes Soviet Visit

LD2508190388 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—A delegation of municipal functionaries, members of the Communist Party of Israel and other organisations grouped in the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, visited the Soviet Union from August 16 to 25 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

The delegation visited Soviet Belorussia and the Volgograd region where they familiarised themselves with the activity of local party organisations and soviets of people's deputies in the conditions of the perestroyka, or restructuring, drive.

The delegation visited a factory, a collective farm and social and cultural amenities.

In meetings and conversations, members of the delegation spoke about the struggle of Israel's progressive forces for the working people's interests, equality of the Jewish and Arab population in the country, termination of the occupation of the Arab lands and establishment of a fair and lasting peace in the Middle East.

TASS Analyst on Israel, Lebanon Situation

LD2508175788 Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko:

The current situation in the Middle East which formed as a result of Tel Aviv's aggressive expansionist policy is so complicated and explosive that, it would seem, it cannot be aggravated further. But reports of news agencies indicate a different thing.

On August 24 Israeli occupiers staged another punitive action, invading south Lebanon, the Al-Biqa' Valley. Supported by helicopters and tanks, the Israelis were combing the area over six hours. There were several casualties among the aggressors and among the participants in the "Islamic resistance". Three peaceful citizens were wounded. More than 300 large-calibre shells were fired at five south Lebanese populated localities.

It is reported that besides this operation, the Israeli military continues concentrating its forces in other areas of Israel-occupied south Lebanon. The newspaper AL-SAFIR reports that a column of occupation troops arrived on the same day in the area of Alman and Shumriyah villages. The troops arrived in 15 armoured carriers. Aircraft of the Israeli Air Force made a series of

flights over the Lebanese territory, initiating rocketry and bombing strikes on Palestinian camps east of Sayda. The Lebanese anti-aircraft forces opened barrage fire at Israeli aircraft more than once...

By all indications, Tel Aviv now seeks to aggravate the situation regarding Lebanon still further. As is known, the presidential elections are held in Lebanon now. They take place in extremely difficult conditions of a civil war that is in its 14th year. The most radical proposals for democratic reforms are made by former President Sulayman Franjiyah, one of several tens of presidential candidates.

Among the demands of his foreign policy programme is complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from the entire Lebanese territory and an end to Tel Aviv's interference in Lebanon's internal affairs, the interference that is one of the main reasons of the difficulties experienced by Lebanon.

Isn't it these just events that cause another wave of irritation in Tel Aviv which is immediately vented in punitive actions against a sovereign Arab state, causing new loss of life, more material damage.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Progress Toward Libya-Chad Normalization Viewed

PM2508135188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by IZVESTIYA own correspondent V. Neznamov: "From Confrontation to Dialogue"]

[Text] Algiers—The period of armed conflict on the border between Libya and Chad is becoming a thing of the past. The leaders of these two neighboring African countries are seeking to prepare the soil for normalizing interstate relations with various goodwill gestures.

In recent months the positive content in Libyan-Chadian relations has gradually increased, while their negative charge has lost its power. Let me cite just some of the events through which the switch from confrontation to dialogue was implemented. During the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the OAU, M. al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, announced Tripoli's recognition of H. Habre's government in Ndjamena and his desire to resolve all disputes with Chad "on a friendly and fraternal basis." This demarche gave great satisfaction to the leaders of the African states, who interpreted this as a sign of an outcome to the dispute between Libya and Chad which is favorable for the entire continent. And overall they were not disappointed in this.

At the beginning of July the foreign ministers of these countries met for the first time in 15 years on neutral territory, in Libreville, the capital of Gabon. This meeting was also the virtual beginning of dialogue. Its result is well known. It meant that after many years of disputes the sides recorded in a communique—a political document—their determination to settle all the disputes in a fraternal spirit. Favorable conditions for continuing this dialogue and achieving within its framework agreements enshrining the normal character of relations between the neighboring states were provided by statements made by M. al-Qadhdhafi at the beginning of August about Libya's neutrality in Chad's internal conflict and the Libyan leadership's decision to release in the near future 355 Chadian POW's who had been seized at the time when the two countries' armed forces were fighting each other. Ide Oumarou, general secretary of the OAU, reported this latest decision to a "Radio France Internationale" correspondent.

Of course, positive progress in Libyan-Chadian relations is occurring primarily as a result of a reassessment by the leaders of Libya and Chad of political priorities and methods for implementing objectives. But the new approaches in their bilateral relations are not emerging in a vacuum. Everything is interrelated in the world. They are also a part of the new thinking which is manifesting itself in the international arena as a whole. Moreover, they cannot be separated from the difficult work being conducted by the OAU special committee to settle the Libyan-Chadian conflict. Its activity has shown the OAU's potential for reducing by its own efforts the level of contradictions arising from time to time between its members, and the ability of such organs of the developing states to fully settle such disputes.

Petrovskiy Meets Nigerian Foreign Minister

LD2608035688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1837 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Lagos, 25 Aug (TASS)—Nigerian External Affairs Minister Ike Nwachukwu has spoken highly of the state of Soviet-Nigerian relations. He received USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Petrovskiy, who is in Lagos on an official visit, today. This visit will serve to further strengthen relations between the two countries, the minister declared.

Ike Nwachukwu noted the Nigerian side's desire to take an active part in strengthening peace in the world. On the subject of the problem of the southern part of the African Continent, he declared that his government has displayed a cautious optimism with regard to the situation that had arisen there as a result of the talks among Angola, Cuba, the United States, and the RSA. There is, however, an undoubted need, noted the Nigerian minister, to step up pressure on the racist regime of the RSA in the interests of resolving the problems of that part of the continent.

Bilateral Soviet-Nigerian relations have reached a stage where both states can act in a common direction, stressed V.F. Petrovskiy. It is now exceedingly important to give them a new quality. The Soviet side has the firm intention of developing and enriching the Soviet-Nigerian dialogue.

V.F. Petrovskiy extended to Ike Nwachukwu an invitation to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union at the start of next year.

The USSR's approach to international problems from the standpoint of the new thinking presupposes interdependence and a need to involve all states in resolving such vital problems of the present day as maintaining security, accelerating economic development, defending human rights, ecology, and others, he noted. Certain improvements are currently taking place in all areas of the globe toward finding ways to eliminate regional conflicts. The USSR considers it important to give support to these processes and to create the conditions to enable people to decide their own destinies without outside interference, stressed V.F. Petrovskiy.

Political consultations began at the Nigerian Foreign Ministry today between the Soviet and Nigerian sides on some of the most important international problems and matters connected with bilateral relations.

Sao Tome Foreign Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD2508205588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1618 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow, 25 Aug (TASS)—At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Carlos Alberto D. da Graca, foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, arrived in Moscow today on a working visit.

East Europe

GDR's Honecker Receives CPSU's Medvedev

LD2508204188 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A meeting took place in Berlin between Comrade Medvedev [secretary of the CPSU Central Committee], who has been in the GDR on vacation, and Erich Honecker.

The sides exchanged opinions on topical issues of socialist construction and the international situation, and on ways to further develop relations between the USSR and the GDR. The jointly shared opinion on the importance of studying the fraternal parties' experience in the construction of socialism was expressed.

Moscow Reports Strike Situation in Poland

LD2508200788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] PAP reports that illegal strikes at seven mines in Katowice and Walbrzych Voivodships have ended. At six coal mines in Katowice Voivodship activists and militants of underground groupings are still trying to heat up the situation and to maintain the inconsiderable proportion of the collectives who are continuing strike action on the territory of the enterprises. At the remaining mines throughout the country normal coal production is under way.

Labor activity has resumed at all the plants forming the major Czegelski machine building conmbine in Poznan where some of the workers at two plants were previously on strike. The situation is gradually returning to normal at the Stalowa Wola machine building combine. In Szczecin the strikers, under pressure from the majority of the labor collective, have left all three tramcar depots and two of the three bus stations. Tramcars are running along all 12 routes; buses which have come with their drivers from other towns are helping to serve bus routes.

However, strikes or interruptions in the work of some of the workers are still continuing in Szczecin Port, at Gdansk shipyard, and some other enterprises. An active role of incitement is being played there by extremists from the former Solidarity and also by underground groupings. The Presidium of the Supreme Committee of the United Peasant Party has condemned the illegal strikes in Poland which are primarily political in nature. The Presidium of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party has spoken out against attempts to achieve political decisions with the aid of force, by means of holding and expanding illegal strikes.

According to PAP on Thursday afternoon a group of strikers voluntarily left the Krupinski mine in the Silesian coal basin. At the present time preparatory work is under way there to resume coal production.

Afghan Foreign Minister Arrives in Budapest

LD2508170488 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Budapest August 25 TASS—Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil arrived here today for an official visit.

He was invited by Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi.

Romanian Envoy's National Day Address

LD2308185688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; address by Romanian Ambassador Ion Bucur to mark the occasion of Romania's national day—recorded in Romanian with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] Esteemed comrades and dear friends. The antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation which took place on 23 August 1944 under the leadership of the RCP opened a new era in the history of the Romanian people. During the 44 years since the victory of the revolution, Romania has been transformed from a poorly developed country into a country with modern industry and advanced agriculture.

Science, education, and culture have undergone much development. The standard of living of the working people has risen continuously and a complex set of measures has been implemented to improve the organization and administration of society and the system of workers' democracy.

Implementation of the decisions of the 13th congress and the national conference of the RCP will ensure that by the end of this decade Romania will be transformed into a socialist country with an average level of development.

Esteemed comrades, the 1944 August revolution was implemented in favorable conditions created by the brilliant victories of the Soviet Army against Hitler's Germany. The heroic struggle of the Romanian and Soviet soldiers against fascism cemented the friendship and cooperation between our peoples which has constantly developed and deepened during the years of socialist construction. Accords reached at summit level have a decisive role in their development. The visit by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu to the Soviet Union in 1986 and the visit by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to Romania in 1987 have created a solid basis for multilevel cooperation between our peoples.

Conducting an active foreign policy, Romania consistently comes out in favor of a halt to the arms race and of wide-ranging international cooperation. Our country welcomed with pleasure the ratification by the Soviet Union and the United States of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles in the belief that this is the first step toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and should be continued by the adoption of a comprehension program for disarmament.

Dear friends, I sincerely wish you complete success in implementing the decisions of the 27th congress and the 19th all-union conference of the CPSU on restructuring of all spheres of activity and in the struggle for disarmament, peace, and international cooperation.

West Europe

Ivanovskiy Returns From Finland; Met by Arkhipov

PM2408153088 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Aug 88 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] Helsinki, 20 Aug—The official visit to Finland by Army General Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, has ended. He was here at the invitation of General J. Valtanen, commander in chief of the Finnish Defense Forces.

On 19 August Army Gen Ye.F. Ivanovskiy was received by Finnish Defense Minister O. Norrback.

On the same day the Soviet military leader left for home.

Army Gen Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, who had been in Finland on an official visit, returned to Moscow 19 August.

Army Gen Ye.F. Ivanovskiy was met at Sheremetyevo Airport by Army General V.M. Arkhipov, USSR deputy defense minister, and generals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Gremitskikh on Preparations for Kohl Visit

LD2608091488 Moscow TASS in English 0845 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS—"In Moscow they hold that a Soviet-West German summit meeting will become an important milestone on the way of developing relations between the USSR and West Germany", Yuriy Gremitskikh, first deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, said in a talk with a TASS diplomatic correspondent in conjunction with the visit of West German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl to the USSR scheduled for the latter half of October.

"In the Soviet capital they prepare to discuss a wide spectrum of international problems, among them disarmament, the development of the CSCE process, ecology, the complex of bilateral relations, including in the commercial and economic sphere, and also the development of ties and exchanges in a variety of areas".

"In Moscow they hope that both sides' statements on the intentions to make a contribution to the improvement of bilateral relations will be filled with specific content and this will serve the cause of further ameliorating the political climate in East-West relations", the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed.

Portuguese Communist Party Approves Program

LD2508185788 Moscow TASS in English 1301 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Lisbon August 25 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Reshetilov reports:

A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party has ended here. Its participants approved a new draft program of the Portuguese Communist Party and draft changes in the party rules. They discussed preparations for the 12th congress of the party and the order of electing delegates to it and discussing its documents.

Speaking at a press conference on the results of the plenary meeting, Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the party, pointed out that the draft program broadly discussed in all the Communist Party organizations had set the goals reflecting a consistent, firm, democratic and patriotic course followed by Portuguese Communists in the interests of the people. It emphasized even more strongly the eternal significance of Marxism-Leninism

and the role of that scientific theory as an instrument for the analysis of the present-day situation, as a guiding principle which takes into account the experience of the international communist and working-class movement, of all the progressively-minded forces of the world.

The draft program and changes in the rules approved by the plenary meeting will be submitted for the consideration of delegates of the 12th Congress of the Portuguese Communist Party due to be held on December 1 through 4, this year.

Latin America & Caribbean

Ortega Denounces U.S. 'State Terrorism'

LD2608090088 Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 26 AUG 88

[Text] Managua August 26 TASS—The fate of a peaceful settlement in Central America and the fulfillment of the Guatemalan agreements now hinge on the stance of the Honduran Government which patronizes the Nicaraguan counter- revolution, President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said here Thursday appearing in the radio and television programme "Face the Nation."

A large part of the formations of mercenaries redeployed in the territory of this neighbouring country to receive aid from the United States, the president said. With the knowledge of the Honduran authorities Somozists undergo military training at the Yamales and Capire bases set up by the Pentagon and make preparations for new acts of terrorism against the Nicaraguan people.

Honduran President Jose Azcona turned down Nicaragua's recent proposals for putting together an international monitoring force on the joint border, which was to bolster both countries' security and relieve the tense situation, the president stressed.

Ortega said that in his personal message to Azcona he urged Honduras for one more time to fulfill the obligations assumed, phase out the contras' military bases which serve as a bridgehead for aggression against the republic, demonstrate in action a foreign policy which is independent of the United States, and prove its longing for peace.

Honduras' refusal would signal an escalation of tension and a further impoverishment of the Central American peoples. The president denounced the United States' policy of state terrorism, which is the principal cause of the regional crisis, and confirmed Nicaragua's readiness to uphold its right to independence, self-determination and the defence of the Sandinist revolution in face of Washington's intrigues.

New Election Law Adopted in Nicaragua

LD2508061388 Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] Managua August 25 TASS—The National Assembly (parliament) of Nicaragua adopted Wednesday a new election law after a heated debate that lasted for over a week. The law will regulate the election of the president and vice-president of the republic, of deputies of parliament, members of municipal councils and members of the district councils in the autonomous regions of the Atlantic coast, deputies of Central American Parliament, as well as the holding of plebiscites and referendums. The new law will come into force in 1990, when a presidential election is to be held in Nicaragua.

The law bars the parties enjoying foreign financial support from taking part in the electoral process. It protects the interests of the citizens who do not belong to any political party. For instance, they can put forward their candidates at municipal elections. Each political party taking part in the election campaign has the right to use television for propaganda purposes. Supporters of this or that candidate will receive the right to freely hold meetings and demonstrations on the streets of the cities.

Radio Moscow Calls for 'Rebellion' in Chile

PY2408200888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] The organizations controlled by the PCCh [Communist Party of Chile] and other Marxist groups are preparing demonstrations and street disturbances for 30 August. Their objective is to protest the Armed Forces commanders' selection of President Pinochet as candidate for the plebiscite. This was reported last night by Radio Moscow in its clandestine program transmitted to Chile.

According to the Radio Moscow program, many activities have been planned abroad to exert pressure on the Chilean Armed Forces when they appoint a candidate.

Radio Moscow called on the people to carry out a real social rebellion in Chile on 30 August. It also sent its greetings to the newly created CUT [Central Labor Union], stating that it represents the struggle against the government.

Finally, Radio Moscow transmitted statements made by former PCCh Senator Volodia Teitelboim, who lives in Moscow. He said that the use of violence is one form of a struggle that the people can use to oppose the current government.

Political & Social

23 Aug Rallies in Tallinn Reported

LD2508114688 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] [Announcer] On 23 August there were meetings of the Soviet Baltic republics which attracted the interest of the Western mass media. Here are details of what took place from our colleague in Tallinn, Raul Malk:

[Malk in Russian fading into English translation] On Tuesday the 23d, Estonia looked back on its past and pondered over today. In the capital, Tallinn, there were three events, very different ones. More than 1,500 workers, invited from various industrial plants, attended a meeting with the leading Moscow historian Yuriy Afanasyev and Estonian scholars at the Political Education Center. They discussed, among other things, the Soviet-German treaty of 23 August 1939 and ethnic relations. Heated debates continue among Soviet historians over that treaty with Germany. Some scholars say that the treaty was justified and met the interests of the Baltic peoples. Others have been pointing to the problem of secret agreements. Their attitude has been most articulately expressed by Professor Afanasyev.

[Begin Afanasyev recording in Russian fading into English translation] To have a full, comprehensive, and profound understanding of this issue, one must go through world and European history, starting from 1919 once again. One must recall how the Versailles system took shape and collapsed; how selfish, timeserving considerations gained an upper hand in Europe, which ended in the betrayal of smaller European nations; how the British and the French farmed out Czechoslovakia to Germany in Munich, and as a result of the Ribbentrop-Molotov pact was concluded an agreement between Hitler and Stalin concerning the Baltic area and Poland, which helped Hitler to start World War II. [sentence as heard] One should go through all this again in order to find the roots of subsequent developments, which can no longer be interpreted in the old fashion, as a revolutionary situation and the peaceful emergence of socialist republics in the Baltic area. What are the conclusions? As a matter of fact, we now have to deal not only with historical injustice. The ultimate goal is to have a clear idea of what our society is like today. If we continue hiding the truth of history, we shall never gain our social identity. Only truth will help us find our bearings to build a future society. [end recording]

[Announcer] Moscow historian Yuriy Afanasyev ended his speech to applause by the audience. Another event took place in Tallinn's Hirve Park. A rally held there with permission from the authorities was convened by several groups, including the so-called Estonian Party of National Independence. Whereas the discussion at the Political Education Center, (while it was?) keynoted by bitter regret for mistakes of the past, held commitment to current realities, the rally in the park signaled a different attitude. Some speakers coupled sharp condemnation of the 1939 treaty with calls for secession from the USSR and expressions of ethnic immodesty. However, the main event of the night of Tuesday the 23d was a 5-hour rally at the Culture and Sport Hall, attended by 13,000 people. Many others stood in the streets in front of the loudspeakers put outside, all listening to what was being said inside. The rally was organized by the Estonian People's Front in Support of Perestroyka. It supported a declaration calling for a detailed inquiry into the prewar developments, and for changing the official attitude and the history course in schools on the basis of such research. The People's Front condemned Stalin's distortions of home and foreign policies, and the very system of the personality cult. The declaration emphasized the need for restoring the Leninist principles of the federation, and ensuring the genuine sovereignty of the voluntarily united Soviet republics. In that connection a major role is to be played by the introduction of self-financing and economic self-government in Estonia, endorsed by the recent national conference of the Soviet Communist Party. That rally was keynoted by realism and common sense. The audience was aware that Estonia should continue working for renewal together with other republics.

Western news agencies claimed that Tuesday's rallies in Tallinn were in support of Estonia's seccession from the USSR. Is this a correct interpretation, Raul Malk?

[Malk in Russian fading into English translation] Far from that. One of the rallies did put forward such demands, that's true, but it was the smallest of the three rallies held that day. We must honestly admit one more fact, too. There was a similar rally in Hirve Park in August, 23d August last year. It gathered many more people than this time. It goes to show that over the 12 months the people have been able to see the underlying motives of the calls for Estonia's separation from the Soviet Union. Anyway, the separatists now could voice their opinion at a rally allowed by the authorities, but they are a diminishing minority.

Estonian Party Secretary Comments on Reform

LD2508164888 Helsinki International Service in Finnish 1500 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Text] [Announcer] Now over to Tallinn. Indrek Toome, secretary of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party, says that the entire Soviet leadership supports Estonia's striving for economic self-management. In an interview with Finnish radio news today, Toome criticizes some extremist groups functioning in Estonia. By these he means the Internationalist Front established by the Russians and the Estonian Independence Party established a few days ago. In speaking about the country's nationalism, Toome gives assurances that the entire Communist Party leadership and the government are working to preserve the Estonians as a majority in their own country. Antti Halinen reports from Tallinn:

[Halinen] In his interview, Indrek Toome gives fulsome praise to the Soviet policy of restructuring—perestroyka. And no wonder; it has provided plenty of new possibilities for the Estonians and for raising him in January to his present post of secretary responsible for ideology of the party's Central Committee. It is said that Toome enjoys much greater popularity among the people than his predecessor, Reyn Ristlaan, who is currently managing the party's relations for another ideology, religion. Toome gives assurances that the CPSU and the Soviet Government, led by Premier Ryzhkov, support Estonia's economic self-management because Moscow is interested in gaining proof of the implementation of economic reforms. The Estonian party, for its part, is more than 100 percent behind the self-management program, says Toome.

New movements, associations, and groups have recently sprung up in Estonia like mushrooms in the rain. Toome says that the party will support and cooperate with all organizations which support the policy of reform. But he stresses that, in accordance with the CPSU, the reforms will be implemented under one-party conditions. He criticizes the representatives of the Estonian Independence Party for political naivete. According to Toome, they are trying to turn back the wheels of history to the year 1940, and they do not take into account prevailing political facts. Toome gives an equally bad mark to the Internationalist Front established here by the Russians. In Toome's view, it does not aim at solving nationality problems on a democratic basis but rather is trying to aggravate nationality relations. However, perestroyka draws a line across the Stalinist policy of merging different nations, says Toome.

In all of Estonia there has been much talk this week about the 1939 Molotov-Von Ribbentrop pact and its effect on Estonia. Toome says he agrees with the historians who believe that the presence of Soviet troops in the country and Stalin's policy of ultimatums had a substantial effect on events, but did not by themselves decide the fate of Estonia. In Toome's view, the Soviet Union's ultimatums and actions against Finland at the same time were a manifestation of the Stalinist policy of power which totally neglected the interests of small nations. This is Antti Halinen in Tallinn.

Sumgait Families Welcomed in Artikskiy

NC2608111888 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 24 Aug 88

[Text] Yerevan, 24 August, ARMENPRES—Perhaps for the first time in the past 5 months, a little bit more confidence is seen on the faces of Valeriy Levonyan, Aleksandr and Alyosha Tumasyan, and others who have come from Sumgait. Seven families from Sumgait have received houses in Artikskiy city. The city soviet has given them houses in the newly built Lmbat [name as received] township. The workers of the boxmaking and stocking factories who were waiting for houses enthusiastically gave up their turns for the sake of their compatriots from Sumgait.

Before the houses were allocated to them, the families stayed in the student restaurant of one of Artikskiy's schools. Many people offered accommodation to the victims free of charge. For example, Aram Arakelyan offered two rooms with all amenities in his house to a family. It is true that there was a need for such acts; however, the city soviet solved the housing problem within a short period of time.

"We are very pleased with our compatriots," said Valeriy Levonyan. "It is only now that we feel what a homeland means. We had to leave everything—our home, our jobs, and all our belongings—in Sumgait. They have given us suitable and spacious homes. However, we would have still been unable to stand on our own feet had it not been for the material assistance extended to us by Artikskiy's organizations and people. They have collected money and, apart from the houses, they have bought refrigerators, utensils, and tables and chairs for our seven families."

The people from Sumgait were welcomed here like relatives. All those who wanted jobs have received them. Students will be attending school in September and the children have been placed in kindergartens. The people of Artikskiy are expecting two more families who will also be housed in the newly built township.

Armenian Communist Party Plenum Discussed

PM2508143188 Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 13 Aug 88 p 1

[Armenian Communist Party Central Committee document entitled "On the Forthcoming Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Dear Comrades!

The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has adopted a decision to submit the question "On the tasks of party organizations to overcome stagnant phenomena in the economy and the social sphere and improve the ideological and moral climate in the republic" for discussion by a regular plenum.

The need to hold this plenum is dictated by the extremely complex situation that has taken shape in our republic. It regularly fails to meet plans for scientific and technical progress, production efficiency is deteriorating, and the quality of output is likewise deteriorating. Many enterprises and organizations are finding themselves in a difficult financial position. Serious shortcomings have been allowed in the implementation of the party's social policy. The food program targets are not being met in full and the supply to the population of foodstuffs, particularly meat, milk, and vegetables, is improving only

slowly. The demand for consumer goods is not being fully satisfied. An intolerable situation has taken shape with regard to housing and trade, transport, medical, municipal, and consumer services. The problem of ensuring a steady supply of drinking water has not been solved. Ecological problems remain a serious issue.

These negative processes and unresolved problems in the economy and social sphere have had a negative impact on the entire ideological and moral atmosphere. Ugly phenomena such as the embezzlement of socialist property, corruption, bribe-taking, cronyism, and a scornful attitude to the law have taken root in the republic. Some people no longer appreciate socialist values, and the wave of consumerism has grown stronger. The principles of social justice have been violated.

Deformations have taken place in internal party life and cadre policy. Many party committees are failing to keep up with the tasks of restructuring, are unable to assess the causes of stagnant phenomena correctly and in good time, and show indecisiveness in the struggle against negative phenomena. The results produced by organizational, ideological, and educational work have fallen sharply.

The CPSU Central Committee has more than once drawn the attention of the republic's leaders to the situation and the need to step up work to implement the course adopted by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum. But they failed to draw the proper conclusions even after the just criticism addressed to them at the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum.

The situation in the republic has become considerably more complex as a result of the events in Nagorno-Karabakh. Rallies and demonstrations, followed by strikes, have destabilized the situation. Forces opposed to restructuring have begun to show their true face, and irresponsible people have become more active and begun to incite others to unlawful action. In this situation many party, soviet, and economic leaders have proved inadequate, and the distance between party committees and the broad masses of working people has become apparent.

Measures recently taken to improve the situation have led to a reduction in tension, and the problems of setting the republic on the path of renewal are being resolved. But the situation as a whole remains complex.

The forthcoming Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum intends—in a spirit of party principle and with a sense of great responsibility—to analyze the situation and draw up a clear-cut program of action to ensure the steady development of the economy, rapidly solve the problems that have accumulated in the social sphere, and radically improve ideological and political education work and the international and patriotic education of the working people.

It is believed that the questions submitted for discussion by the plenum will find a lively response in Communists and all working people in Armenia. We have every opportunity to become actively involved in the country's restructuring rhythm and really begin to implement the political course of the 27th CPSU Congress, the 19th party conference guidelines, the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum, and the responsible tasks set the republic in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session.

The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee appeals to Communists and all working people in the republic to submit constructive proposals to the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and voice any criticism regarding questions of socioeconomic development, the work of party, soviet, economic, and law enforcement bodies and trade union, Komsomol, creative, and other social organizations, and the task of improving the moral and political atmosphere in the republic.

The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee expresses the firm belief that, considering the enormous political significance of the forthcoming plenum, the republic's Communists and working people will participate very actively in its preparation.

[Signed] The Armenian Communist Party Central Committee.

Increased Production in Azerbaijan Urged

NC2608072088 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 23 Aug 88

[Text] The Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee held a meeting to examine the question of affiliating sovkhozes and kolkhozes working at a loss or with little profit to the republic's industrial ministries, administrations, unions, and establishments. These establishments, which are found mainly in the mountainous and [word indistinct] areas of the republic, need assistance to upgrade production, improve financing and economic work, and step up the construction of production, cultural, and livelihood services installations. In view of this, a large number of industrial establishments having an adequate amount of material and technical resources and means of transportation and construction basis can provide assistance in this regard.

The task of securing an early increase in agricultural production, not to mention increased production by the establishments, was laid down, in order to significantly improve the supply of foodstuffs to [word indistinct] collectives.

Azerbaijan SSR Passes Decree on Demonstrations
NC2608080088 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0340 GMT 25 Aug 88

[From the Republican Press Review]

[Text] In light of the decree adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on 25 July on the organization of rallies, meetings, and demonstrations in the Soviet Union, the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium passed a decree on 20 August in connection with breaches of the rules concerning the organization of rallies, meetings, and demonstrations.

The newspapers published a report on the decree today.

Link Between Glasnost, Recent Disorders Denied
PM2608115588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Aug 88 Second Edition p 1

["Topical Issue" feature comprising readers' letters and commentary by the Social Policy and Communist Education Desk: "Law and Democracy"]

[Text] ...I am 80 years old and have seen a lot in life, both bad and good. But I find that which is happening today in Moscow and, judging by the newspapers, in other cities, hard to understand and very alarming. In my view, it is no good for the authorities to shut their eyes to uncontrolled gatherings by all sorts of groupings in Pushkin Square. They often issue clearly anti-Soviet slogans, pervert glasnost and democracy, sow mistrust in the leading organs of the state, and call for the creation of some sort of new parties. The question is: Who has given permission for these gatherings? Surely, democracy and glasnost do not mean allowing everyone to do anything they fancy without regard for the law? I think that democracy is impossible without observance of legality.

V. Lastovskiy, war and labor veteran, Moscow

I cannot keep silent! Leningrad is the cradle of the revolution, its heart. And on its streets you see a well-fed and impudent piece of trash, with a fascist swastika on his sleeve, holding forth about human sterilization. Is that a dream?

Yurmala. Song festival. A wiggling half-naked singer with a cross around his neck—and this is shown on television. What is this?

Armenia. Strikes. Absenteeism without excuse. And where is the law? Why is it keeping silent? People responsible for its application are also keeping silent.

I think that all this is rooted not only in the past. It is also rooted in the total license which some people camouflage as democracy.

P. Melkozerov, CPSU member since 1945, Sverdlovsk

The latest articles in central newspapers about the state of the struggle against crime, and specifically about cases of mass breaches of public order, testify to a considerably widespread and active disobedience of the law.

Without going into the historical roots of legal nihilism in Russia, I would like to note that the growing number of incidents provoking mass disorders stems not only from disrespect for the law but also from the absolute certainty of impunity. Law enforcement organs are also to blame for this. Afraid of making mistakes and being subsequently criticized, they have withdrawn from the struggle against breaches of the law. We read about mass disorders and malicious disobedience of militia personnel accompanied by violence against them—without any reports about legal measures taken against the culprits. It is as if there were no criminal law provisions against hooliganism, resisting the militia, and mass disorders.

V. Muzalevskiy, senior investigator from the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Prosecutor's Office

Our misfortune is due to legal illiteracy. On the one hand, we have a situation whereby ignorance of the law does not excuse liability. On the other hand, however, how is one to find out what the law is? This is not a rhetorical question. There is virtually no legal instruction in schools and VUZ's and, bluntly speaking, there are not enough lawyers to meet everyone's needs in every case. And to top it all, there is simply no legal literature available.

A. Lukyanenko, engineer, Kustanay

From the Social Policy and Communist Education Desk [subhead]

Today one increasingly often encounters situations which would have been difficult to even imagine in the past. For example, would anyone have believed even 3 years ago the likelihood of a director of a major enterprise not being appointed but being elected from among several candidates? Or that it might be possible to hand a laggard and unprofitable plant over to its collective, which would make it profitable? The changes are pleasing. They testify that the domestic policy barometer is firmly pointing at further development of democracy, glasnost, and social activeness by each and every one, and at the fact that the country is pursuing a course of creating a state based on the rule of law.

The nature of this state is typified primarily by reciprocal responsibility between the state, its management organs, and the citizens. In other words, we will attain the level of a state based on the rule of law only when all our plans, actions, and decisions are implemented on a strictly legal basis. Observance of legality is the way of life in a state based on the rule of law.

But why is it that many readers see a connection between the extension of the limits of democracy, of citizens' rights and freedoms, and the growth of antisocialist hooligan outbursts and other breaches of the law?

There is no unambiguous answer to this question. One thing is certain, however: Some citizens have perceived the expansion of democracy as total license, as the right to disregard the law and resist the authorities. Anti-Soviet and antisocialist elements have recently become more active. Hiding beneath the slogans of restructuring they—people like, for example, the leaders of the so-called "Democratic Union"—deliberately go beyond the framework of socialist pluralism of opinions and provoke breaches of law and order, leading the militia to intervene. This is what happened, for example, on 21 August—an event already reported by PRAVDA—when militia forces had to break up an unauthorized rally by the "Democratic Union" in Moscow's Pushkin Square.

Attempts to whip up emotions, to sow national or social suspicion and dissension, or to cause clashes between different groups of people, cases of downright hooliganism and disobedience of the authorities—all this certainly does not fit in with the process of democratization. To disguise such actions as restructuring and glasnost is, to say the least, blasphemous. They must be bluntly described as direct violations of socialist legality. Democratization without legality threatens to turn into anarchy.

And what about the law enforcement organs? Here we must agree with our readers' letters: Afraid of being accused of excesses, the militia, the prosecutor's offices, and the courts have recently slackened the struggle against breaches of law and order. Such a stance is diametrically opposed to the principles of a state based on the rule of law. A law which is passed but not implemented gives rise to a sense of impunity and encourages legal nihilism. The fact that every year prosecutor's offices bring to light on the average around 10,000 unlawful acts in the system of soviets of people's deputies alone is attributable to disregard of the law.

The proper task of universal legal education is to ensure that every citizen knows the law and his rights and duties. It must be understood that, as long as a law is in force, it must be obeyed unconditionally, by all, and without any exceptions. And punishment for breaches of the law must follow just as unconditionally.

Genuine democracy means supremacy of the law expressing the will of the people.

Baklanov Visits Perm Oblast, Addresses Aktiv

PM2508140788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Aug 88 Second Edition p2

[TASS report: "The Social Sphere: Priorities of Restructuring"]

[Text] Communists and all Soviet people have set about implementing the party conference guidelines in an energetic and businesslike manner. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum have set specific aims in this creative work.

The reserves that must be brought into play to increase the effectiveness of this work and ways to overcome everything impeding our progress were discussed during meetings between O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and working people in Perm Oblast, which he visited on 16-20 August. Special attention was drawn to the need to improve the social sphere. It was noted that this task is a key, priority task of restructuring.

In his speech to the oblast party aktiv, O.D. Baklanov stressed that the main task now, as M.S. Gorbachev said in his report at the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum, is to concentrate on the practical implementation of the conference guidelines and to strive to ensure that their implementation becomes the pivot of work by the whole party and all state and social organizations and spurs people on to work responsibly and to the best of their abilities at the tasks with which they are entrusted. Unity of word and deed are needed now as never before.

The party conference and Central Committee plenum clearly reflected the positive processes which have been taking place in the country since April 1985. They convincingly showed that the people well understand the tasks set by the party and are actively involved in work to transform the country.

The main conclusion drawn from the conference results is that the line developed by the party for the revolutionary renewal of Soviet society is being steadily implemented.

One of the central issues discussed at the conference was the reform of the political system and the program to radically democratize sociopolitical life. The approved concept of reform embraces the entire complex of political institutions and gives new definition to the role of the party, soviets, state bodies, and social organizations. The key requirement in this respect is to demarcate the functions of party and state. The reform must result in a stronger role for the CPSU as the political vanguard of society and an enhanced role for the soviets as organs of people's power.

The reform of the political system is intended to eliminate the deformations of the past, revive Leninist principles and the practice of socialist people's power, and create firm guarantees that will prevent any possibility of arbitrary rule, personality cults, subjectivism, and stagnation in the future.

It is extremely important to ensure that the reform of the political system is conducted in indissoluble unity with cardinal economic reform. Only as one whole can these reforms ensure far-reaching, revolutionary transformations in our society.

The process of making the country's economy more healthy has begun. New methods of economic management are gathering momentum. Such measures as the USSR laws on the state enterprise and cooperatives, labor collectives' transition to economic accountability and self-financing, the contract and lease system, and individual labor activity have created favorable conditions for efficiently running the economy. The conference confirmed with new force the line taken by the April Central Committee plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress for the social reorientation of the economy.

Following this line has already produced appreciable, positive results: Working people's real income has increased and the construction of housing and sociocultural projects is moving at a faster pace. Major measures are being taken to improve the situation in public education and health care.

Nevertheless, we are all aware of the difficult, complex, contradictory progress being made by the restructuring processes and the sharp antagonism between the old and the new. There has still been no radical breakthrough.

The attitude to work and to taking action still remains unchanged in many collectives. The standard of discipline does not meet restructuring requirements. Many leaders cannot give up their old work methods. There has been no tangible success in overcoming the braking mechanism. One of the reasons for this situation is that there are shortcomings in the current work of party, state, and economic bodies and social organizations.

The main work still lies ahead. We must all build our work in line with the conference and plenum requirements and strive to ensure that their implementation is the main feature of activity by the party and all state and social organizations.

The last 2 years of the 5-year period are committed to a very great deal. During this time we basically have to complete the formation of the new economic mechanism with which the country must enter the 13th 5-year period. We have to transfer all sectors of the national economy to the new conditions, make the transition to a supply system based on wholesale trade, establish a new management structure, galvanize economic accountability principles at regional level, work out substantiated economic normatives, and prepare the price reform.

Today the main political problem is that henceforth restructuring will be judged on the basis of solutions to vital practical tasks. It is precisely from this standpoint that we must also regard the work of the oblast party organization.

Perm Oblast, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee continued, is one of the leading oblasts in our country. It has a powerful industrial, scientific, and agricultural potential. If we assess the results of work by Perm Oblast in the current 5-year period, we can say that positive changes have been made. But restructuring compels everyone to take a critical look at the results of their own work, feel constantly dissatisfied with these results, and want to do more and better.

In November 1986 the Central Committee Politburo heard a report by the Perm CPSU Obkom. There had not been such a comprehensive, in-depth analysis of the oblast party organization's work for many years. The Central Committee resolution on the obkom report was basically a specific program of practical action applicable to every party committee and every primary party organization to establish a principled, exacting attitude, dynamism, and efficiency in practice.

The speech went on to give a detailed analysis of the oblast party organization's work to overcome the shortcomings highlighted by the Central Committee. It was noted that this work is not efficient enough. The pace at which production is being retooled is slow, which cannot fail to have a negative impact on labor productivity growth rates. The fact that almost half of the enterprises which have failed to honor contractual obligations have transferred to the new economic management conditions is a source of concern.

The speech devoted a great deal of attention to ecological issues and emphasized the need to definitely meet targets for the construction of environmental protection projects and the assimilation of waste-free technologies.

The unsatisfactory situation in capital construction was noted. Resources are still being frittered away on numerous projects in the oblast.

Now, when virtually all rights are being given to those at local level, the role of regional factors in the improvement of the economy is radically changing. The party has condemned administrative-edict methods of management and launched a determined struggle against them. But the braking mechanism, which has yet to be dismantled and in many respects is just as strong, must be eliminated from above and below. Cadres' persistence, purposefulness, and competence, their determination in the struggle against everything obsolete, and their ability to rapidly assimilate new forms and methods of work are now being moved into the forefront. This is one of the central tasks of the oblast party committee.

The implementation of radical economic reform will take years, O.D. Baklanov continued. We will do everything possible to bring the results of the reform closer, but the main task now is to ensure an efficient combination of realizing long-term strategic aims and maximally satisfying the people's vital needs.

The conference and the plenum clearly defined three urgent tasks: substantially improving the country's food supply, resolving the housing problem, and speeding up the process of saturating the market with varied goods and services.

The conference decided that the quickest way to solve the food problem is to reveal the potential of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and the cooperative movement, employ full economic accountability, and use various forms of the contract and lease system. The solution of these tasks has paramount significance for Perm Oblast.

As was noted at the Central Committee July plenum, the main reason for the shortcomings and the one common to all of them is that measures to strengthen agriculture's material base have not been accompanied by appropriate work designed to change economic relations in rural areas. Bolder steps must be taken to eliminate inefficient economic units and transfer their lands and other means of production to those capable of ensuring high returns on economic operations. The lease system has a special role to play in intensive farming.

It is quite obvious that we must rapidly create a modern and powerful industry for the production of consumer goods. Parasitical attitudes are still strong here, unfortunately, as are attempts to "extort" funds for necessary goods instead of producing them at local level by showing the kind of initiative needed.

The USSR Council of Ministers has adopted a series of resolutions designed to speed up the development of light industry in fulfillment of the conference decisions. They envisage the modernization and retooling of existing enterprises and the construction of new ones on a "turnkey" basis. A powerful industrial potential is concentrated in Perm Oblast. That is why it is particularly important here to increase the output of consumer goods at enterprises in Group A sectors.

Discussing issues connected with saturating the market with goods and developing the services sphere, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said, in particular, that such a disgraceful phenomenon as waiting lines is intolerable.

The oblast housing problem also remains to be solved. The oblispolkom was right to highlight the problem of providing every family with an individual apartment or house by the year 2000 in a separate, comprehensive program. But this is only the start of a great deal of work. In order to cope with this work full use must be made of all inner reserves.

Restructuring and the reform of the political system, the speaker continued, are creating a fundamentally new situation in society. The leading role of the party and the authority of any of its workers will no longer be decided by title or office, as has often been the case in the past, or by former services, but by the real authority which must be proven every time by real action. This means that every Communist must become a real champion of restructuring.

The democratization of internal party life is connected with two important political events to take place this year: reports and elections in party organizations, and the reorganization of the party apparatus.

As far as the reports and elections are concerned, the atmosphere of the conference, which ensured a free expression of opinions and amicability and at the same time keenly raised issues, must serve as an example in this respect.

Under the new conditions it is necessary to ensure that worthy people, enjoying authority among the people, work in the apparatus. It is they who will help to form the creative style of activity now required of party bodies, decisively put an end to bureaucracy and arbitrary edict methods, conduct a bold, frank dialogue with people, and determinedly rebuff timeservers of restructuring.

Discussing the foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet state, O.D. Baklanov noted that the revolutionary transformations taking place in our country have still further enhanced the international prestige of the party and the country. The start of the practical implementation of the historic Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles was an important landmark.

The first, very important step in real disarmament has been taken. The Soviet Union will continue to make every effort to progress further along this path in the interests of peace, our own people, and the whole of mankind.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee visited the Ya.M. Sverdlov "Motorostroitel" Production Association in Perm. In his conversations with designers, engineers, and workers he set the task of accelerating the pace at which progressive developments are realized.

At the "Verkhnemullinskiy" Sovkhoz the need to show greater concern for the social development of rural areas was discussed. Agriculture in the oblast must make fuller use of the powerful arsenal of Perm industry to enhance the pace of its retooling. These questions were also raised in conversations with working people at the local stud farm—the northernmost stud farm in the country.

During a visit to one of the enterprises of the 60th Anniversary of the Soviet Union Planning and Construction Association, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee inquired in detail about the possibilities of increasing the labor collective's contribution to the solution of the housing problem.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary's meeting with the collective of the Urals "Galogen" Production Association was dedicated to the subject of increasing the output of chemical products needed by the country.

O.D. Baklanov visited one of the mines of the "Uralkaliy" Production Association in a major industrial center of the oblast—the city of Berezniki. His conversation with the miners took place right there in the mine. They made a number of critical remarks about machine builders.

Discussing the tasks of the city party organization connected with implementing the conference decisions while addressing a meeting of the city party and economic aktiv, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee devoted particular attention to the role of soviets in deepening the restructuring processes. People's deputies, he stressed, must now focus the whole of their growing influence on improving working people's living conditions.

He then toured new residential districts in the city of Solikamsk. He noted the need to comprehensively develop trade and the services sphere.

In a final conversation with the leaders of the CPSU obkom and oblispolkom, he stressed the need to rapidly resolve the tasks contained in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo resolution on Perm Oblast and implement the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference in practice.

Flowers were laid at the V.I. Lenin memorial in Perm's central square. Scarlet carnations were also laid at the memorial to those who took part in the 1905 uprising at revolutionary Motovilikha.

O.D. Baklanov was accompanied by Ye.N. Chernyshov, first secretary of the Perm CPSU Obkom.

Vorotnikov Analyzes Progress of Restructuring

LD2208142888 Moscow TASS in English 1357 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Blagoveshchensk August 22 TASS—Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Russian Federation's Council of Ministers, today analysed the current stage in the perestroyka, or restructuring, drive.

Addressing party activists of the Amur region in the Far Eastern city of Blagoveshchensk, the leader of the largest Soviet republic stated that a truly business-like approach was shaping up in the party and the country at large to the handling of immediate tasks of Soviet society's social and economic development.

The speaker said that not all Soviet people were satisfied with the course of perestroyka and with its pace.

"This reflects the natural contradiction of the current period," Vorotnikov said.

"On the one hand, one cannot spur perestroyka and skip its stages. On the other hand, it is necessary to resolve outstanding social and economic tasks as a matter of urgency.

"This contradiction can be solved by actively drawing every, literally every person in the perestroyka processes."

Considering topical tasks of boosting the development of the agro-industrial complex, the Russian Federation premier said:

"The root of the matter lies now in changing economic relations in the countryside, in independence, initiative and responsibility of the producers. This is the very powerful lever that will make it possible to revive in the farmer the sense of being master on land and guarantee high efficiency and return of the hired means of production."

"Quite a number of complex, contradictory problems are emerging in the course of perestroyka," Vorotnikov said. He pointed to the rising prices of many manufactured items, the growth of wages that several instances exceeded the growth of labour productivity and the ensuing emission of bank notes that were not covered by goods.

"There will be no drastic changes in the implementation of the reform until financial, banking and price reforms are carried through, until wholesale trading in means of production is introduced," the speaker stated.

Analysing the forthcoming reconstruction of the Soviets of People's Deputies as the principal element of the Soviet political system, Vorotnikov said:

"We are starting for the first time the practical establishment of the economic basis for local self-government.

"The points at issue are new approaches to the shaping of the local budget, including the gradual transition to cost-accounting of administrative entities—down to region, territory and autonomous republic inclusively."

Society To Study Stalinist Repressions

LD2508153888 Moscow TASS in English 1554 GMT 25 Aug 88

["Stalinist Repression—Memorial Society Set up in Moscow"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 25 TASS—An historical educational society, Memorial, has been set up in Moscow to study documents related to the repressions of the 1930s-1950s in the Soviet Union.

The society which held its constituent meeting here today has been founded by unions of creative intellectuals, OGONEK magazine and LITERATURNAYA GAZETA weekly.

"Our objectives are identical to those that have been placed before the commission of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee studying materials related to the repressions in the 1930s-1950s," Vyacheslav Glazychev of the organising committee, secretary of the Board of the USSR Architects' Union, told TASS.

"We will collect evidence related to that period, letters, reminiscences and photo materials owned by private citizens.

"We back the idea of building a complex in memory of the victims of the repressions. It would be erected in Moscow with donated money—contributions have already started coming to a special account.

"The memorial should include a monument, a museum and archives in which everyone would be able to find required materials.

"A competition for the best design of the memorial will be open for Soviet and foreign citizens."

RSFSR Decree on Penalties for Gambling

PM2508110388 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 13 Aug 88 Second Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "In the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] On 11 August 1988 the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium issued a Decree "On the Modification of Certain RSFSR Legislative Acts" aimed at further stepping up the protection of public order and citizens' rights and interests.

The decree declares that playing games of chance (cards, roulette, thimblerig, and others) for money, things, and other valuables and likewise the acceptance of bets by private individuals at sports and other events entail administrative liability in the form of a warning or a fine of up to R50, with or without the confiscation of the gaming equipment and money, things, or other valuables staked in the game.

The perpetration of the aforementioned acts by a person who has already within the year been subject to an administrative penalty for one of the enumerated breaches of the law entails the imposition of a fine ranging from R50 to R300 with or without the confiscation of the gaming equipment and money, things, and other valuables staked in the game.

The organization of games of chance is punished by a fine ranging from R100 to R500 with the confiscation of the gaming equipment and money, things, and other valuables staked in the game.

It is also laid down that the organization of games of chance by a person who has had administrative punishment measures applied to him within the year for the same breach of the law is to be punished by deprivation of freedom for a period of up to 1 year, corrective labor for a period of up to 2 years, or a fine of up to R1,000 with or without confiscation of property.

Deprivation of freedom for a period of up to 3 years with confiscation of property is envisaged for the organization of games of chance by a person already convicted for this.

The decree makes appropriate modifications and additions to the RSFSR Code on Administrative Breaches of the Law, the RSFSR Criminal Code, and the RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure.

Writers Call for Independent Critics' Union

PM2508103188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Aug 88 Second Edition p 3

[Article by A. Zis, member of the RSFSR Writers' Union Council for Criticism, and Yu. Korev, chief editor of the journal SOVETSKAYA MUZYKA under the rubric "Opinions": "Should Criticism Be Independent?"]

[Text] The social activeness of literary and artistic criticism has noticeably increased in the years of restructuring. Nevertheless, the characteristic gap between this criticism and the real life of the arts world, as well as the vital problems of society's spiritual life, and the group bias and mutual backslapping which continue to "coexist" with recurrences of certain "different" opinions are by no means in the past.

So why is criticism so behind the times? There are talented authors who write well and have a literary gift. Critical thinking has been revived but there are still no signs of the kind of critical "explosion" we are now experiencing in art itself, particularly in literature. In this connection we would like to draw attention to one particular range of issues: the social status of criticism and the organizational forms its activity takes.

As is well known, since the First Congress of Soviet Writers in 1934 critics in our country have been members of single unions for the different branches of art and literature: writers with literary critics, composers with musicologists, artists with art critics, and so forth. It possibly seemed in that now distant time that this decision would give some impetus to consolidating the artistic intelligentsia. Incidentally, there was no alternative at that time: Different, varied ideas—the basis of any critical judgement—were not encouraged, to put it mildly. The firmly established administer-and-command directives in economic and social life very rapidly introduced a harmful, morally ruinous hierarchical nature to relations between artists themselves, dividing them, conventionally speaking, into "leaders" and "led" and—no less, possibly even more immorally!—driving a wedge between creativity and criticism. The latter was either given a hefty stick to wield or was cast in the role of a "personal manservant"—a kind of batman, not only for

the "generals" but even for the "junior lieutenants".... And this is least of all a metaphor: The lowly status of critics in the creative unions has been given organizational consolidation everywhere, particularly since the second half of the forties.

The main point, however, is that essentially the whole system of periodicals devoted to literary and art criticism has become reliant on orders issued from the center. Every creative union (with the exception of writers, who we will discuss later) has been "assigned" one "fat" journal (they were subsequently also given one "thin" journal) as departmental organs. Criticism has thereby been taken completely in hand. It has been dealt the final blow by the fact that the overwhelming majority of mass sociopolitical publications, primarily newspapers—unlike the practice under V.I. Lenin—have ceased to give art, literature, or poetry any serious attention: The "residual principle" has prevailed even here, thereby consolidating the belief in the mind of the public that critical thinking has no independent function in culture, with one exception, thanks to which this thinking has not completely died out: the sphere of literary criticism. No, critics have certainly not been placed outside the union of writers. However, the profession itself—the printed word!—seems to have opened before them barren prospects of a life of enslavement, allowing them to create an essentially "parallel structure."

This has been formed by the numerous literary journals which, despite being organs of definite branches of the writers' union, have, by virtue of their large numbers, come to enjoy a certain autonomy and consequently achieved a measure of independence. Moreover, critics also have the influential LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. We do not consider this structure to be ideal—or the state of literary criticism as a whole. However, the level of this criticism differs—as does the earth from the sky—from all the other "criticisms," including cinema, theater, the fine arts, and music.

In order to revive literary and artistic criticism as an inalienable, independent part of the cultural process with its own status peculiar to itself alone, it seems vitally necessary to smash stereotyped ways of thinking which say that criticism is not an independent sphere of creativity.

It is important to affirm the understanding that criticism is independent of the creative unions. It is not supposed to be a service sphere; it is supposed to be able to speak "on equal terms" with all cultural and artistic figures, in the best Leninist traditions of democracy and glasnost. To this end it seems expedient, without at all restricting the possibilities for critics to be members of and work in creative unions, to form a new creative association at the same time, an all-union association of literary and art critics.

The first task of this association must be to form truly free literary and artistic criticism that could develop on its own creative basis—in the traditions of revolutionary-democratic criticism and on the principles of Marxist-Leninist artistic thinking. It would also be expedient to give the new association its own journal. And, looking to the future, it could produce its own newspaper devoted to criticism....

We have not set ourselves the task of outlining the organizational principles of the future association of literary and artistic critics in this letter. One thing is clear, however: Steps must be taken to ensure that the existing social institutions do not stultify the potentially lively ideas of arts critics.

AIDS Prevention Propaganda Council Meets

PM2508112388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Aug 88 Morning Edition p 3

[Report by own special correspondent S. Tutorskaya: "With Complete Frankness: AIDS—The Danger Persists"]

[Text] Moscow—The first session of the interdepartmental Council on AIDS Prevention Propaganda has been held. The council, set up by the Ministry of Health and operating under its auspices, includes representatives of various state and public organizations.

If you are to believe the official figures supplied by doctors, the situation in our country is relatively satisfactory compared with other Western countries (1 Soviet person is ill and 64 infected). But do we have complete information? The surveys were only selective, after all, and complacency in this matter is as dangerous as panic.

We are now more honest in our self-assessments. Even a few years back the word "prostitute," like many others, did not exist, as it were, in our vocabulary. We have now realized that this was our misfortune. And we must look openly at the AIDS problem too.

As was said at the session, three ways of infection by AIDS are known: intimate contact; via blood from a donor; and from a contaminated syringe. Everything else is superstition and neurosis, as doctors say. But after an information report was delivered by the isolation service and generally practical speeches were made, I fell to thinking. If there are three potential channels, that means there must be three means of prevention. Meanwhile, although we have a health care requirement of 3 billion disposable syringes per year, at present we have in reality 1 million. This year their number will increase by 100(!) times. But it is, nevertheless, a drop in the ocean.

The doctor now has to boil the syringes and they must be handled with extreme care, since there is a danger for medical personnel too—the syringe is dangerous...if an injection has been given to an AIDS-infected person. It is no secret that there is a constant shortage of nurses. They are overworked and constantly fatigued. How are they to

be protected here? And cases of doctors becoming infected are already known abroad. We must therefore look after their safety, and urgently!

And another thing. One speech devoted to preventing AIDS among young people voiced the familiar theme that it is necessary to instill high moral standards in young people, and then everything will be fine.

What can one say to that? Instilling a high moral sense takes more than one decade. But life with its variegated and not always edifying scenes is all around us here and now. Young people and adolescents have not yet had any bad experiences, but there are a host of temptations.... And yet the reality is that young people have started having intimate relations earlier in recent years. They are statistics supplied by doctors, and you cannot hide from that by fine-sounding, abstract discussion.

We are wholeheartedly in favor of pure feelings and high morality. But one is also aware that people around one differ: Life is not a bed of roses....

That is why it is not possible to restrict oneself to appeals of the type "die before you give a kiss without love." Individual means of preventing infection must become available, not to mention the fact that it is essential to completely block off the other two channels of infection. The virus, after all, does not mind which way it gains access.

Concern must be shown to ensure, as was said at the session, that the doctors' propaganda material is available to the most diverse groups of the population and is specifically tailored to their mentality: one designed for mature men, another for youths just embarking on life.

And another piece of information: All foreigners coming to our country for more than 3 months must undergo an AIDS test. Many spoke about the arbitrary nature of this period. But for the time being at least 3 months has been decided upon.

...M.Ye. Saltykov-Shchedrin made an interesting observation. Our compatriot, he wrote, often thinks according to the principle: If God did not give it, the pig would not eat it. He eats, the writer exclaimed, boy how he eats!

Briefs

Writer Receives Honor

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has adopted a decree conferring the Order of the Labor Red Banner on writer Aleksandr Borisovich Chakovskiy, editor in chief of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. The award marks his services to the development of Soviet literature. [Text] [*LD2608014688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 25 Aug 88*]

Economic

Temporary Statute on State Orders Published

WA18200276 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 31, Jul 88 (Signed to Press 29 Jul 88) pp 18-20

["Temporary Statute on Formulation of State Orders for 1989 and 1990; approved by USSR Council of Ministers, 25 July 1988"—boldface as published]

[Text] The present Statute has been worked out in accordance with the USSR Laws on State Enterprises (Associations) and Cooperatives in the USSR, as well as the Basic Statutes for Radically Restructuring the Administration of the Economy, as approved by the June (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and by the decisions of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference. It takes into account the practical operating experience of enterprises (associations) during 1988, as well as the features of the new economic mechanism's emergence and functioning in 1989 and 1990.

During this period state orders will be formulated and carried out under the conditions of democratizing administration, developing contractual relations between enterprises (associations) of the presently operative 5-year plan, gradually expanding the scale of wholesale trade in producer goods, restructuring price formation and the finance credit mechanism, and improving the organizational structures of the sectorial territorial direction and development of other elements of the integrated administrative system. The indicated circumstances have made it necessary to develop a procedure for formulating state orders for the remaining years of the current 5-year plan and have determined the temporary nature of the present Statute.

I. State Orders in the System of Planning and Economic Administration [subhead]

State orders shall constitute one of the basic instruments of the new system for administering the economy and organizing the activity of enterprises, associations, and organizations (hereinafter the term "enterprises" will be used for all three) under the conditions of full cost accounting and self-financing. They shall comprise an organic component of the system of initial data for planning.

The close interrelationship between the central figures of the state orders as the long-term economic norms and limits shall be directed at ensuring an optimal combination of centralized principles in administrating the economy with an expansion of the enterprises' economic independence, the formulation of a new quality of economic growth, progressive structural shifts in public production, and a balanced development of the national economy.

The present Statute encompasses questions of formulating plans of economic and social development solely by virtue of establishing state orders in their interconnection with control figures regarding the volume of production output (completion of operations and/or services).

Control figures, and especially the indicator of production output (completion of operations and/or services) in value terms for concluding contracts, shall reflect the general requirements of the national economy and the population; they shall not be in the nature of directives, and they shall be reported to enterprises as guidelines, the achievement of which must ensure a balanced development of the economy as a whole. In order to create for enterprises the possibilities for more precise guidance as to the changes of the structure of social requirements and the population's demand within the composition of the total volume of production output (completion of operations and/or services), the amounts of the output of its most important types shall be singled out according to consolidated positions in value or physical terms, as calculated for work on draft plans and the conclusion of economic treaties.

State orders shall express the state's demands for delivery by enterprises of products (completion of operations and/or services) for satisfying the top-priority social requirements, as well as ensuring the restructuring of the economy. As a rule, they shall encompass a portion of the enterprises' production program.

State orders shall be established for the following purposes:

To deliver certain types of products necessary, above all, to solve general state and social problems, carry out scientific and technical programs, strengthen the country's defensive capability, and ensure its economic independence;

To conduct the most important scientific research studies and developments, which are revolutionizing social production;

To deliver agricultural products;

To put into operation the most important production capacities and facilities of the social sphere by means of state centralized capital investments. In certain cases, with regard to the suggestions of enterprises, local Soviets of People's Deputies, intersectorial state associations, ministries, and departments, state orders can be set up to put into operation extremely important production capacities and facilities in the socio-cultural sphere, to be created by means of their own funds and other sources of financing.

Keying on control figures and guided by state orders, enterprises are independently formulating a production program, adopting decisions on a fuller utilization of capacities, the achievement of high end results and the receipt of cost-accounting income which, in accordance with the USSR Law on State Enterprises (Associations) shall be a source of the production and social development of labor collectives.

State orders shall be established in the state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR and shall be reported by USSR Gosplan through the USSR ministries and departments, the Councils of Ministers of the union republics and the intersectorial state associations to enterprises in the procedure provided by the present Statute. These orders are obligatory for inclusion in the plans of enterprises.

State orders for the delivery of products (completion of operations and/or services), as well as putting into operation production capacities and facilities of the social sphere, can be put on a competitive basis. Ministries and departments shall establish a list of products (operations, services) with an indication of the basic requirements for its manufacture, shall work out the conditions for the competition, determine the time periods for carrying it out, organize, jointly with the territorial organs of USSR Gossnab, the provision of enterprises with the necessary information, regardless of its departmental jurisdiction. In order to participate in the competition, enterprises report their own proposals with regard to production volumes and product deliveries (completion of operations and/or services), its technical-economic parameters (indicators of the product's ensuring environmental protection, productivity, price, etc.), and deadlines for filling orders. Ministries and departments shall examine these proposals and adopt decisions on placing state orders at those enterprises where the conditions for filling them are preferable from the standpoint of national-economic interests, as well as the interests of specific consumers.

Questions of organizing the placement on a competitive basis of state orders for the delivery of products having an intersectorial nature shall be decided by the permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gosagroprom, and USSR Gosstroy.

In filling state orders, including those on a competitive basis, cooperative enterprises can participate on voluntary principles.

II. Basic Principles of Formulating State Orders [subhead]

Formulation of state orders shall begin with a determination of their composition, i.e., the list of types of products (works, services), necessary for solving the most important state problems, accelerating scientific and technical progess, restructuring the economy, and attaining the main goals of social policy.

The composition of state orders shall be formulated for the plan period by USSR Gosplan in conjunction with USSR Gossnab and taking into account the results of

examining the proposals of USSR ministries and departments, the Councils of Ministers of the union republics, the intersectorial state associations, and shall be approved by USSR Gosplan.

For 1990 the composition of state orders shall be reported to the USSR ministries, departments, Councils of Ministers of the union republics, and intersectorial state associations before 1 March 1989.

The specific amount of state orders with regard to products (operations or services) included in their composition shall be determined by USSR Gosplan, and with regard to products to be distributed by USSR Gossnab—in conjunction with them. This work shall be conducted on the basis of determining the requirements of the national economy and the population, taking into consideration the proposals of the USSR ministries and departments, Councils of Ministers of the union republics, leading production and scientific-production complexes, as well as proceeding from the assignments of the state scientific and technical programs and the Comprehensive Program for the Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Member Countries. It shall be guided by a system of calculated balances among the production and distribution of material-technical resources and the active interrelationship between the consumers and producers of commodities.

State orders for the delivery of products (completion of operations and/or services) must ensure the following:

Implementing the social reorientation of the economy, satisfying the population's effective demand for basic goods and services, taking into account the requirements of its various age groups;

Widescale introduction into the national economy of the most important achievements of science and technology, progressive structural shifts in the sectors of the production and social spheres;

Delivery of the most important fuel and raw material resources necessary for the stable operation of all sectors of the economy;

Executing inter-governmental agreements with regard to delivering goods, and primarily with CEMA member countries;

Strengthening the country's defensive capabilities and its economic independence;

Forming material reserves of the USSR Council of Ministers.

State orders shall not include the following products:

Production-technical types of serial and mass output;

Intraministerial consumption, as well as products being made within the limits of a single national-economic complex;

For enterprises' own technological needs;

Narrowly specialized items which are produced basically by a single manufacturer and consumed by a limited number of enterprises;

Products being turned out by joint enterprises of the USSR and other CEMA member-countries, as well as joint enterprises of the USSR with firms of the capitalist and developing countries.

State orders shall be determined, taking into account the sectorial specifics of production and the national-economic importance of the product, and they can be established with regard to the volume of production and the deliveries of the individual types of items (completion of operations and/or services), as well as with regard to the specific products list.

State orders with regard to the volume of production and delivery of items shall be established, as a rule, for enterprises which extract and process fuel, raw materials, and other materials which are particularly important for the stable development of the economy as a whole.

Taking into consideration the acuteness of the problem of balancing the growing monetary income of the population in 1989 and 1990 with the volumes of production of consumer goods and the rendering of services, state orders shall be established for enterprises in all sectors of the national economy (except for those in the system administered by the USSR Ministry of Light Industry) on the entire production volume of food items, as well as non-food consumer goods in retail prices and the rendering of paid services to the population.

For enterprises in those industrial sectors turning out a large quantity of various types of goods, state orders shall be established for the deliveries of the most important kinds of products in accordance with a group or specific-products list.

Enterprises shall formulate an intra-group products list independently on the basis of suggestions from consumers and the organs of material-technical supply. No supplier has the right to refuse to conclude an agreement with a consumer to deliver specific items pertaining to the group products list of state orders if the production of these items corresponds to the supplier's product assortment.

Based on a summarization and analysis of the draft sectorial and territorial plans for the upcoming year, as prepared by the USSR ministries and departments, the Council of Ministers of the union republics, and the intersectorial state associations, USSR Gosplan shall develop a draft state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR, and shall communicate to

them no later than 10 August of the year preceding the year to be planned state orders for the volumes of production output (completion of operations and/or services) in value terms and other indicators in accordance with the USSR Law on State Enterprises (Associations). Moreover, the production volumes of specific types of items in value or physical terms, as adopted by enterprises in their own plans based on the control figures reported to them shall be used only for concluding economic agreements and as a basis for working out calculated material balances and the plans for distribution, which shall not be included in the state plan.

The limits of the material-technical resources to be distributed in a centralized manner shall be reported by the USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab to the USSR ministries and departments, to the union-republic Council of Ministers, and to the intersectorial state associations no later than 20 August of the year preceding the year being planned.

The ministries, departments, and intersectorial state associations shall report the state orders, volumes of production output (completion of operations and/or services), and the above-indicated limits mentioned in the state draft plan for the economic and social development of the USSR to the sub-departmental enterprises no later than 1 September of the year preceding the year being planned for the purpose of completing work on concluding agreements for deliveries and organizing the preparation of production.

The USSR ministries, departments, and intersectorial state associations shall not have the right to include additional products (operations, services) in state orders, to expand the composition of state orders approved by the USSR Gosplan, or to increase their volume.

Under conditions whereby there is a curtailment in the proportion of state orders and an expansion of enterprises' independence in formulating a production program, there shall be a substantial change in the operational methods of enterprises and administrative organs with regard to the reliable material-technical provision of the national economy.

An increasing role in the material-technical supplying of enterprises will be played by the wholesale trade of producer goods. It shall be inaugurated by the USSR Gosplan, as well as by the USSR Gosagroprom, the USSR ministries and departments, and by enterprises. Enterprises shall obtain products by way of wholesale trade without limits or funds. The USSR Gossnab and other organizations engaging in wholesale trade shall determine the list of production-technical types of items to be sold in accordance with the indicated procedure; and they shall inform the USSR ministries and departments, the union-republic Council of Ministers, and enterprises about this.

Centralized distribution of the products being turned out on state orders shall be carried out by the USSR Gosplan and by USSR Gossnab.

Taking into account the fact that state orders do not encompass many types of intersectorial products which are essentially important for the national economy's balanced development, the regulation of their consumption during the period when retail trade is emerging shall be carried out by means of limits on consumption, to be determined on the basis of production volumes adopted by the enterprises, proceding from the control figures reported to them as a calculated guideline. Limits of consumption shall be formulated on a product which is particularly important for the national-economic balance and exports, taking into account the suggestions made by supplying enterprises and consumers, and they shall be reported by the USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab to the USSR ministries and departments, union-republic Councils of Ministers, intersectorial state associations, as well as the territorial organs of USSR Gossnab. The above-indicated limits shall be reported to the enterprises by the departments and intersectorial state associations, and they shall comprise the basis for concluding economic agreements between the makers and the consumers of products.

The material-technical supplying of products not included in the state orders and not distributed with regard to the limits of consumption, nor conveyed for sale by way of wholesale trade through the supply organizations shall be handled by enterprises independently in accordance with direct, unlimited orders based on economic agreements. Moreover, enterprises shall, as a rule, maintain the economic ties which have evolved; they shall not, without justification, permit the unilateral cessation of these ties.

Problems arising during the course of the material-technical supplying of the national economy, balancing the production of and demands for products not included in the state orders nor distributed in accordance with consumption limits, shall be examined and solved as follows:

For products of intra-ministerial use—by the appropriate ministries and departments;

For products being turned out and used within the national-economic complexes—by the appropriate complexes of USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, and the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, as well as by the permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gosstroy, and USSR Gosagroprom;

For products of inter-complex use—by the appropriate USSR ministries and departments, the union-republic Councils of Ministers, and by the permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers in conjunction with USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab.

III. Characteristic Features of Formulating State Orders in the National-Economic Complexes [subhead]

State orders shall be formulated in a close interrelationship with the control figures for total production output (completion of operations and/or services) in value and physical terms.

The specific amounts of the product deliveries (completion of operations and/or services) to be included in the state orders and their proportion in the production-output volume (completion of operations and/or services) shall be established during the preparation of the draft state plan for the economic and social development of the USSR for the corresponding year, taking into account the product's importance in public consumption, the degree of the market's saturation, and the developmental level of retail trade in producer goods. Moreover, the unjustified expansion of a state order and limitations placed on the independence of enterprises in planning their production programs shall not be permitted.

In state orders to enterprises of the **machine-building complex** provisions shall be made to deliver the most important, progressive types of machinery, equipment, instruments, means of automation, and computer equipment, designed to accelerate scientific and technical progress in the national economy, assimilate the fundamentally new types of equipment and technological processes measuring up to the world level.

State orders for machine-building enterprises shall also include deliveries of the basic engineering equipment for creating the most important production capacities provided for by the state orders and fulfilling export obligations. With regard to certain types of equipment of individual use with a production cycle of more than 12 months, state orders shall be established for a 2-year period.

In the metallurgical complex state orders shall be established for the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy solely for end products for these ministries, i.e., without taking intrasectorial technological consumption into account.

For enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy state orders shall be instituted for the total volume of deliveries of finished rolled metal and metal products beyond the limits of the ministry's system. It shall include the products list state orders for the most important types of items. The remaining products list of metal items to be delivered shall be coordinated with consumers within the limits of consumption allocated to them.

For enterprises under the USSR Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy state orders shall be established for deliveries of nonferous metals and items made of them in full amounts and beyond the limits of the ministry's system; they shall include products list orders for the most important types of products. With regard to the remaining part of the output, a procedure shall be put into effect analogous to that established for ferrous metallurgical enterprises.

In the chemical-forestry complex state orders being reported to enterprises shall include the most important types of products determining the conditions for radically improving the consumption structure of construction materials in all sectors of the national economy, as well as introducing intensive technologies into agriculture. State orders shall be established on the entire amount of deliveries of certain types of medications, light petroleum products, special chemical items, as well as paper for publishing newspapers.

In the fuel-and-energy complex state orders shall provide for the volumes of petroleum, gas condensate, natural gas, and coal to be extracted.

State orders for the petroleum-extracting industries shall be established for the entire amount of petroleum and gas condensate to be extracted.

State orders shall be established for gas-extracting enterprises for extracting gas, taking into account the possibility of independently planning and marketing 10 percent of the amount of gas to be delivered beyond the limits of the ministry.

In the coal industry state orders shall determine the volume of deliveries of coal to the population (market stocks) for coking, creating state reserves, and for export.

For enterprises engaging in **geological-prospecting operations**, state orders shall establish the increase in the explored reserves of the most important types of minerals.

In the agro-industrial complex the formulation of state orders will be carried out in accordance with the USSR Law on Cooperatives in the USSR, particularly the new economic mechanism on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, as well as taking into account deepening the integration of agricultural production and the processing sectors of industry.

State orders **on agricultural products** shall include deliveries to the state of grain with an allocation of the following basic crops: wool, cotton (as computed in cotton fiber), linen (as computed in linen fiber), fur, and fur raw materials, and shall be reported to the union-republic Council of Ministers and the USSR Gosagroprom.

The union-republic Council of Ministers and USSR Gosagroprom shall ensure the promulgation of state orders for delivering agricultural produce to agro-combines, agro-firms, and other agro-industrial formations and rayon-level agro-industrial associations (in republics with oblast divisions—through the Councils of Ministers of the autonomous republics, the ispolkoms of the krayand oblast-level Soviets of People's Deputies). Proceding

from the reported order, the agro-combines, agro-firms, and other agro-industrial formations, as well as the rayon-level agro-industrial associations, shall organize work to conclude agreements for delivering products by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises.

State orders **for the processing industry** of the agro-industrial complex shall include deliveries of the most important types of products—margarine products, children's food products, commercial fish products, flour, groats, pasta items, tea, cotton fiber, linen fiber, and rawhide—in delivery amounts exceeding the limits of the agro-industrial complex, whereas for granulated sugar and vegetable oil—they shall be in the full production amounts.

State orders **for deliveries to the All-Union stocks** of meat and meat products, milk and other dairy products, eggs and egg products, potatoes, vegetables, melon-type crops, fruits and berries, table grapes, dried fruits, citrus fruits, mixed feeds, and hay shall be established for the union-republic Councils of Ministers. The Councils of Ministers of union republics having oblast divisions shall report these orders to the Councils of Ministers of autonomous republics, as well as to the ispolkoms of kray- and oblast-level Soviets of People's Deputies.

In order to satisfy republic-level requirements, the union-republic Council of Ministers shall establish state orders for delivering the above-indicated products to the republic-level stocks.

Taking into account the multi-sectorial nature of the agro-industrial complex, the USSR Gosagroprom may, by way of exception, formulate, in coordination with USSR Gosplan, the composition of a state order for certain types of agricultural products and those of this complex's processing complex.

For **forestry** state orders shall provide the amounts of the most important operations in forest management and reforestation in state-run forests.

State orders for **non-food consumer items** shall be established for enterprises in all sectors of the national economy (except for enterprises within the system of the USSR Ministry of Light Industry) for the years 1989 and 1990 for the full volume of their production in retail prices. Within its composition distinctions shall be made among certain types of items which are of particular social value, as well as for technically complex articles for long-term use in accordance with a group-type products list.

The assortment of consumer goods shall be determined by enterprises independently, based on the results of wholesale trade fairs and in accordance with agreements concluded with trade organizations, as well as taking into account proposals from the union-republic Council of Ministers and local organs.

For enterprises within the system of the **USSR Ministry of Light Industry** state orders shall be established for delivering goods for children, youths, and older persons in accordance with the most important products-list groups, as well as work clothing and special-purpose products.

The total production volume of light industrial goods in retail prices, as well as certain extremely important types of items in physical terms, shall be reported to this ministry's enterprises within the control figures. Guided by these indicators, the enterprises, independently and based on the results of the wholesale trade fairs, as well as by the contract agreements concluded with customers, shall work out and approve production plans for goods and their assortment, taking into account the established state order and the proposals made by the union-republic Councils of Ministers and the local organs.

State orders **for marketing paid services to the population** shall be established for USSR ministries and departments and union-republic Councils of Ministers for the total volume of these services. The suggestions made by local organs shall be taken into consideration in formulating state orders.

State orders for the amount of the **retail-goods turnover of state trade** shall be established for the union-republic Council of Ministers, as well as for the Main Trade Administration of the USSR Ministry of Defense. The total volume of retail-goods turnover of state and cooperative trade shall be reported to the union-republic Council of Ministers within the control figures.

In capital construction state orders shall be established for customers and contractors for putting into operation the most important production capacities by means of state centralized capital investments, as well as in accordance with the suggestions of enterprises, local Soviets of People's Deputies, ministries, and departments by means of their funds and other sources of financing.

State orders for the economic and social development of the USSR for the years 1989 and 1990 shall include a list of construction projects at which production capacities are being created in accordance with state orders. This list shall provide primarily for construction projects and facilities which are of national-economic, inter-sectorial, and regional importance and which are supposed to accelerate scientific and technical progress and restructuring in the national economy. The list of construction projects shall be reported to USSR Gosstroy, USSR ministries and departments, and, where appropriate, to the customers and contractors participating in the investment process.

Within the total amount of contractual, construction-and-installation work being reported to the construction organizations within the control figures, distinctions are made among the volumes of work according to the production purposes of the construction projects, as

included on the above-indicated list. The volumes of construction-and-installation work by specific construction projects included in the list must be provided for in strict accordance with the norms for the length of time required for construction.

In formulating the plans for their contractual operations, the specialized construction organizations shall be obliged to give top priority in them to amounts of work on creating the production capacities and building the facilities provided for by the state orders. Divergences of opinion on matters of completing work on these facilities which arise between the general-construction and the specialized organizations of those ministries included within the construction complex shall be examined and solved by the appropriate ministries and by USSR Gosstroy, while those of the construction ministries and departments which are not included within the construction complex shall be handled by USSR Gosplan.

State orders shall be established for customers and contractors to put into operation facilities of the material base of the social sphere (apartment houses, preschool institutions, schools, hospitals, outpatient clinics, and other facilities) by means of state, centralized capital investments, as well as in accordance with the suggestions of enterprises, local Soviets of People's Deputies, ministries, and departments by means of their funds and other sources of financing.

The indicators which characterize the development of the social sphere's material base by means of funds from all sources of financing shall be reflected within the mix of control figures being reported to customers.

Proceding from the control figures reported by USSR Gosplan with regard to the total facilities in the sociocultural sphere put into operation by funds from all sources of financing, and taking into account the suggestions of enterprises (associations), of construction-and-installation organizations, and local Soviets of People's Deputies, the union-republic Councils of Ministers, in conjunction with the USSR ministries which are customers and whose enterprises are situated on the territories of a republic, shall work out, in coordination with the ministries and departments engaged in construction-and-installation work, and shall approve within the comprehensive plan for the union republic's economic and social development composite plans for putting into operation apartment houses and facilities for social purposes (allocating state orders), guided by the assignments provided by the decree of the USSR Council of Ministers, dated 10 April 1987, No 431.

The assignments of the above-indicated composite plans, including the state orders, shall be reported by the USSR ministries and departments which are customers and contractors to the sub-departmental enterprises.

In 1989 the construction organizations shall formulate at least 10 percent of their own construction program by direct agreements with customers, and in 1990—at least 25 percent.

For enterprises under the **USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry** state orders provide for the delivery of the basic types of products turned out by the cement, asbestos-cement, and asbestos industries, as well as commercial glass.

For the union-republic Councils of Ministers, in order to satisfy All-Union demands (exports, retail trade, reserves, special and other needs), as well as to ensure inter-republic deliveries, USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab shall establish firm, annual state orders for deliveries to the All-Union stocks of products in accordance with the products list of construction materials, as confirmed for the republics.

For the transportation and communications complex state orders shall provide for the following:

For the USSR Ministry of Railways—a volume of freight hauls (departures) by railroad transport in accordance with the sum-total established for the products-list groups and the passenger turnover of railroad transport;

For the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet—a volume of cargo hauls (departures) in coastal navigation into the regions of the Far North and the adjacent localities. The income from foreign hauls, after deducting expenses (in foreign currency) shall be established in the control figures;

For the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation—passenger turnover of air transport;

For the USSR Ministry of Communications and the union-republic Councils of Ministers—an increase in basic telephone sets and an increase in the length of long-distance telephone lines, including those using optical cable links;

For the development of science and technology the USSR ministries and departments, union-republic Councils of Ministers, and inter-sectorial state associations within the control figures shall be provided with amounts of work in the leading trends of scientific research in order to carry out scientific and technical programs, basic developments of inter-sectorial scientific and technical complexes, the assignments of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress for the CEMA Member Countries, as well as the basic summarizing indicators of scientific and technical progress in the sectors of the national economy.

State orders shall include the most important stages of carrying out state scientific and technical programs and the basic developments of inter-sectorial scientific and technical complexes, completing the assignments of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Member Countries. The specific contents of these operations shall be determined by the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, with the participation of the USSR Academy of Sciences, USSR ministries and departments, the union-republic Councils of Ministers, and inter-sectorial state associations.

For foreign economic ties currency earnings shall be established for USSR ministries and departments, union-republic Council of Ministers and inter-sectorial state associations within the control figures; these shall include funds in transfer rubles, in freely convertible currency, and in the currency of those countries whose accounts may engage in clearing operations.

Deliveries of the most important products to the CEMA member countries, as well as by inter-governmental agreements shall be taken into consideration in determining the specific amounts of state orders and the limits of consumption by sectors. Furthermore, state orders shall include construction of extremely important facilities abroad.

Deliveries of products not included within the state orders to CEMA member countries, upon inter-governmental agreements, as well as for building very important facilities abroad, shall be provided for by USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, USSR ministries, departments, and union-republic Councils of Ministers on balance sheets and plans for product distribution.

Union-republic Council of Ministers shall establish state orders for delivering products (completing operations and/or services), being guided by the present Statute, and shall report them to the enterprises of the republic-level system by way of the ministries and departments of the union republics.

Relations of the Parties in the Process of Distributing and Carrying Out State Orders [subhead]

The distribution, on-time, and high-quality carrying out of state orders for delivering products (completing operations and/or services) shall be ensured by a system of measures regarding economic incentives, mutual responsiblity of the parties concerned, and legal guarantees in accordance with the USSR Law on State Enterprises (Associations), the USSR Law on Cooperatives, statutes on the delivery of products (goods), and other legislative acts.

Ministries, departments, and intersectorial state associations, in distributing through enterprises state orders provided for in the state plan for the country's economic and social development, shall bear responsibility for the following:

Ensuring enterprises the limits of the most important material and technical resources, construction, installation, and contractual operations;

Solving problems concerning the sale of products and the timely organization of work to conclude economic contracts.

In case a customer refuses to receive a product (completion of operations and/or services) included in a state order, and it is impossible to sell this product to other customers, the USSR ministry, department, or intersectorial state association, upon reaching agreement with USSR Gosplan and USSR Gossnab, shall introduce appropriate clarifications in the state order. For a republic-level system clarifications of a state order due to the above-indicated reasons shall be promulgated by the ministry or department of the union republic concerned upon reaching an agreement with the republic's Gosplan and Gossnab.

If a change in an issued state order, promulgated upon the proposals of ministries and departments, shall inflict material harm to a manufacturing enterprise, the said enterprise shall be reimbursed by means of the centralized assets of the appropriate ministries and departments. In cases where the change in the state order is promulgated upon the suggestions of USSR Gosplan, USSR Gossnab, or union-republic Councils of Ministers, the total sums of the damages shall be compensated by means of the union or republic-level budget.

Enterprises which have received a state order shall be obliged to do the following:

Include the state order in the plan, conclude in full accordance with the amount of the state order economic agreements with customers which specify the products list, assortment, and quality of the products (operations, services), the deadlines for filling the orders, and other conditions in accordance with the existing legislation;

Ensure the on-time and high-quality completion of the state order for product delivery (completion of operations and/or services) in strict accordance with the agreements concluded;

Provide for the development of production capacities necessary to fulfill state orders by means of centralized as well as their own and borrowed funds;

Ensure the production output (completion of operations and/or services), in accordance with the state order, of material-technical resources, being received with regard to allocated limits, as well as being obtained by way of wholesale trade and by direct ties with supplier-enterprises.

The motivation of enterprises to accept and fulfill state orders shall be ensured by a system of economic levers and stimuli effective under the conditions of full cost accounting and self-financing, as well as by a number of additional privileges.

Enterprises of the processing industry on which a state order has been placed for delivering production-technical types of items (except for special-purpose products), as well as contractual construction-and-installation organizations engaged in work on creating production capacities in accordance with a state order shall acquire the right to additional economic privileges with respect to payments from profits (income) to the state budget. Contributions to the budget shall be reduced in such a way as to ensure an increase in the profits remaining at the distribution of enterprises, amounting to as much as 10 percent (for enterprises which use the form of cost accounting, based on the normative distribution of income—up to 3 percent of the cost-accounting income, depending upon the proportion of the state order in the total volume of production output (completion of operations and/or services) in value terms. The procedure and scale for determining the amount of incentives for individual ministries and departments shall be established by the USSR Ministry of Finance in conjuction with USSR Gosplan.

The above-mentioned privilege shall not be granted to industrial enterprises if they fail to fulfill their contractual obligations with regard to product deliveries, as provided for in a state order, or for construction-and-installation organizations if they violate the procedure, provided for by agreements, for the volumes and deadlines for completing operations within the established time periods for putting production capacities into operation in accordance with a state order.

Taking into account the fact that the conclusion of contract agreements by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises to deliver products on certain terms to agro-combines, agro-firms, and other agro-industrial formations, as well as to rayon-level agro-industrial associations of state orders shall be promulgated on voluntary principles, the above-indicated associations, combines, and other formations shall implement measures for stimulating deliveries with the aid of the existing system of purchase prices and the markups on them, ensuring the guaranteed sale of the product, allocating material-technical resources, the limits of contractual work, and other economic levers.

Additional economic incentives shall be provided for enterprises of the fuel and raw-material sectors of industry, which have taken upon themselves the obligation of producing items in excess of the state order, established on the level of the 5-year plan assignments.

Stimulating enterprises to produce non-food consumer items shall be carried out by way of a special procedure.

Agricultural

50-Year Contract Land-Leasing to Farmers Planned

LD2608121788 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS—By TASS commentator Igor Galkin:

Leasing land and means of production of farmers on 50-year contracts has been envisaged in recommendations approved by the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee (Gosagroprom).

Land in the Soviet Union is national property and cannot be sold. It is at the disposal of collective and state-run farms.

Lease contracts have emerged in the period of perestroyka, or restructuring, currently under way in the Soviet Union. Collective and state farms lease plots of land to their own farmers and to outsiders who expressed the wish to take up farming.

Work-groups or even individual families thus become small farmers.

Naturally, potential leaseholders are interested in a lengthy contract. That is why Gosagroprom stands for fixing leases of up to 50 years.

The recommendations provide for the sale of tractors, lorries and other vehicles, production facilities and social and cultural amenities to individuals or groups of leaseholders.

As season requires, the leaseholders can hire people and pay them under contract. But their wages cannot be lower than those envisaged for similar work at a state-run business.

Gosagroprom told TASS that various forms of lease contract were now being used in more than 10,000 collective and state farms—in one out of five nationwide.

That is quite a lot, considering the fact that lease contract began gaining ground only last year. Tens of thousands of contracts were signed last spring. A new wave of the mass transfer of land and other means of production to leaseholders is expected in the autumn and winter period of preparations for the new agricultural season.

Analysis shows that leasing enables farms sharply to raise labour productivity and reduce production costs.

The state-run farm Zlatogorsky in Kazakhstan increased output per worker by 36 per cent just in 12 months thanks to the leasing of land and farming machinery to work-groups.

Family contracts have been spreading lately as well.

Rent is fixed in a way so as not to prevent conscientious workers from gaining profit that by far exceeds normal earnings either on a collective or a state-run farm.

This is how it must be: Leaseholders should take care about improving their performance.

Nikonov Tours Gosagroprom Mechanization Enterprise
PM2508151188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Equipment for Leasing Contractors"]

[Text] V.P. Nikonov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, visited the USSR Gosagroprom's mechanization enterprise near Moscow on 19 August, where he was shown models of machines and machinery for small and family-run stock units and for leasing collectives engaged in livestock fattening, milk production, and poultry raising.

All the equipment has been developed and manufactured by the USSR Gosagroprom's scientific, design, and industrial enterprises, and is distinguished by simplicity of design, reliability in use, and relatively low price.

V.P. Nikonov met with leaders of technical services under republic agro-industrial committees. In the course of a conversation with them, emphasis was placed on the need for more active work to organize the series production of this equipment at enterprises under oblast, kray, and union republic agro-industrial committees.

One of the paramount and most important tasks at present is the task of boosting the efficiency of feed grain utilization. This requires the speeding up of the manufacture of units for the production of mixed feeds on farms, better utilization of the mixed feed industry's capacities, and a quick start on the series production of feed shredders. Everything must be done to ensure that not a single kilogram of grain is fed to livestock without being properly prepared.

There was a discussion of questions concerning the development of the "Rice," "Flax," "Potato," "Protein," "Soya," and other science and production systems which could provide a focusing point for scientific, design, and machine building energies in the appropriate sphere.

Other questions concerning the enhancement of the efficiency of agro-industrial complex engineering services were discussed.

V.P. Nikonov was accompanied by V.K. Mesyats, first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Obkom; Yu.I. Mordvintsev, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department; and other officials from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the USSR and RSFSR Gosagroproms.

Nikonov Visits Uzbekistan Farms, Markets
LD2208195288 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Comrade Nikonov is in Uzbekistan. The CPSU Central Committee secretary began his familiarization with the republic with Fergana Oblast.

Viktor Petrovich Nikonov acquainted himself with the range of agricultural produce. In conversation with shoppers, it became clear that there are not always fresh vegetables and fruit on the shop shelves, and what there is is not high quality. True, there is the kolkhoz market, but there the prices of goods are often high.

Comrade Nikonov visited the kolkhoz market and took an interest in prices and quality of produce.

Comrade Nikonov also visited the Anor sovkhoz in Kuva Rayon. He saw the plantations of the famous Kuva pomegranates and familiarized himself with the farm's work. [passage omitted]

Comrade Nikonov visited the Kommunizm seed production kolkhoz in Kuva Rayon. [passage omitted] Many of our shortcomings, as Comrade Nikonov noted, come about because of incorrect forms of work organization which are not working for the final outcome. To date, there is not a single team in the oblast's cotton growing which has switched over to lease contracting, hence the low results.

Continues Visit
LD2208212688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Aug 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Nikonov is continuing his visit to Uzbekistan. We have just received this report from our correspondent I. Abdukhalikov:

Viktor Petrovich Nikonov today visited the Akdarya sovkhoz in Akdarinskiy Rayon, Samarkand Oblast. He learned something of the process of cultivating areas for companion sowing. There is nothing new about cultivating two crops on one field, but as the experience of this farm shows, the combination of 80 percent corn and 20 percent soya produces a surprising result. Here, every 32 rows of corn is followed by 8 rows of soya. In this way the tall-growing corn is well aerated and pollination is much better. The new method of cultivating corn gives a 20 quintal increase in in the yield of grain. Thanks to this

innovation, far more fodder has been obtained from each hectare here. And this means more tonnes of meat, milk, and other stockbreeding produce.

Comrade Nikonov also visited the cotton plantations of the Engels kolkhoz in Ishtykhanskiy Rayon. The Samarkand-3 variety of cotton, whose fiber completely meets the requirements of the textile industry, is cultivated here. The rains poured for 4 days at the start of May. This field was resown a number of times, and the members of the team led by team-leader (Shakhmandar Mozafarov) went over practically every shoot; thus, quite a good harvest is maturing in the fields. This year it has been decided to obtain 31 quintals of raw cotton, that is, quintals more than the plan, from every hectare this year.

Comrade Nikonov also acquainted himself with the Kattakurgan interfarm cattle fattening complex, one of the largest in the republic. Ruben Agababyan, a director of the complex, told the guests about the intensive methods of fattening animals which are being adopted at the farm. Viktor Petrovich was particularly interested in the experience of the cooperative workers and lease-contracting brigades in the output of stockbreeding produce.

However, as Comrade Nikonov stressed, this experience is not being introduced on a wide scale, and meat and dairy produce continues to be brought in from other republics. It was emphasized that there are still quite a few problems connected with stockbreeding. This is first and foremost the problem of fodder. Cotton still takes up the greater area in the republic and little land is allocated for fodder crops. And that which is allocated is often unsuitable for the cultivation of quality crops—worthless land. This leads to a shortage of fodder and, in the long run, low milk yields and low increase in the weight of the animals.

Samarkand Oblast is a large supplier of fruits, viticultures and vegatables, melons, and gourds. The famous Samarkand kishmish [an Uzbek grape variety] is supplied to many foreign countries. Comrade Nikonov inspected the vineyards of the Pastdargom sovkhoz in Pastdargomskiy Rayon.

Addresses Tashkent Plenum

PM2508141488 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 25 Aug 88 p 2

[TASS report: "The Agro-Industrial Complex: Onto the Path of New Economic Relations"]

[Text] Tashkent, 24 Aug—Ways of further improving food supplies to the population were discussed at an Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee held in Tashkent today.

V.P. Nikonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the plenum.

It was stressed in the report of R.N. Nishanov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, and the speeches that the Communists and workers of the republic's agro-industrial complex, in tackling day-to-day and long-term tasks, constantly measure their actions against the instructions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the Central Committee July (1988) Plenum. They seek more rapidly to overcome negative phenomena in the agrarian sector of the economy and make full use of the very rich natural and economic potential for increasing the production of food products.

The main attention was focused on the quest for ways to bring available reserves into play as quickly as possible. To this end, the speakers noted, it is necessary to switch agro-industrial production onto an intensive path of development, master in depth the new economic management mechanism, introduce the collective contract and leasing, and make fuller use of the potential of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, as well as industrial enterprises' subsidiary plots and rural homesteads, and collective orchard farming and truck farming to supplement food resources.

The plenum was addressed by V.P. Nikonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He said:

The results of the first half of the 12th 5-Year Plan indicate that the strategic course elaborated by the party in the post-April period aimed at the all-around revolutionary renewal of Soviet society and the acceleration of its socioeconomic development is being steadily put into practice. The country's economy is undergoing normalization and a turn toward the satisfaction of the people's urgent needs, and new methods of economic management are gathering speed. In the agrarian sector kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other enterprises are actively switching to economic accountability and self-financing. The farms of Russia, Belorussia, the Baltic republics, and a number of oblasts of the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kirghizia have been working under the new conditions since the beginning of this year, and next year all enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex will go over to self-financing.

One of the most urgent tasks today is resolutely to improve the country's food supplies. The CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum approved the proposals drawn up by the Central Committee Politburo on this score. The USSR Council of Ministers and local organs in the republics, krays, and oblasts are instructed to draw up and implement, on the basis of these proposals, concrete measures to improve supplies of all types of food products to the population, and to utilize all available reserves and potential to this end.

The quickest way to resolve this problem lies in comprehensively uncovering the potential of kolkhozes and sovkhozes on the basis of the development of various forms of contract and lease relations and the creation of

a broad network of cooperatives both within the framework of existing farms and in relationships with other enterprises and sectors of the economy.

The 19th party conference drew the entirely justified and logical conclusion that the necessary conditions have now emerged in the country for kolkhozes and sovkhozes everywhere to go over to the new principles of economic management, and that all obstacles hampering this both centrally and locally should be removed. Particular responsibility for resolving this task rests directly with kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and specialists, rural Communists, and soviets of people's deputies. It is necessary radically to restructure the entire system of economic relations in the countryside and adopt the economically accountable contract everywhere. Its forms can be very diverse—collective, including the group contract, family, or individual. But the essence of these relations must be based on the lease.

There is no more important task now for party committees at all levels and the primary party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations of kolkhozes and sovkhozes than the organization of lease collectives and the switching of all economic activity onto the path of the new economic relationships. To this end we must find enterprising people, help them to master progressive forms of labor organization, train cadres, and take care of their development as true masters of the land. The entire style of the party organs' activity should be aimed at activating the human factor. They should concern themselves not with the masses in general, but with the specific individual at the specific workplace. It is time to switch from the office style to real organizational work.

Economically accountable contract collectives, and especially lease collectives, do not need petty tutelage and directives with or without reason—that is, everything that stems from the administrative system of management. In the process of involving the peasantry widely in economically accountable contracting relations within the framework of the kolkhoz or sovkhoz and further strengthening and developing public-sector production, it is necessary boldly and resolutely to set about creating new types of agricultural cooperatives and family labor peasant farms.

This should be the rule: No one can ban a person from leasing land and other means of production if he has decided to enter into a new relationship with the collective and society and apply all his efforts, knowledge, and skill to rapidly increasing food resources.

The advantages of working in the new way are demonstrated by many labor collectives of kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Uzbekistan, the speaker went on. Contract subunits that are working under identical conditions to conventional teams and units obtain 20-30 percent more output, and their labor productivity is two or three times higher. The lease contract is particularly effective. For instance, T. Zhurayev's family unit on the Kirov kolkhoz in Shurchinskiy Rayon, Surhan-Darya Oblast, is in its 5th year on lease conditions, fattening 90-100 young cattle, selling animals with an average weight of 450-500 kg, and bringing more than R130,000 of income into the kolkhoz's coffers. Naturally, wages are high in the family, amounting to R300-400 or more a month.

You would think that all rural party organizations would be taking up the switch to lease relations. But this has not yet happened in the republic. On the majority of farms the organizing of contract subunits was a formality, unfortunately, and leaders and specialists continue to be oriented toward obsolete, outmoded forms of labor organization and incentives that do not take account of end results and output quality.

The lease contract is the quickest way to resolve the food problem, and adopting the new economic relationships in the countryside should become the central task in the work of rural party organizations, soviets, and all public organizations on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This must be done also because in terms of the level of development of agricultural production and the state of production affairs, Uzbekistan lags far behind today's requirements. In the last 2 years here meat and milk production increased by an average of only 3.5-4 percent a year. How many years will it take to rectify the situation with supplies of these products, when the level of consumption must be increased by 100 percent or more? But this situation does not apply only to meat and milk. Despite favorable conditions in the republic, there has recently been a sharp fall in the production of fruit, berries, and gourd crops (by 17-23 percent).

In order to reach the parameters set by the Food Program, it is necessary to ensure in 1988-1990 an average annual increase of 17 percent in meat and milk; 26 percent in potatoes, fruit, and berries; 12 percent in vegetable and gourd crops; and 30 percent in grain. Feed production should be increased by nearly 25 percent.

Last year the CPSU Central Committee analyzed in detail the state of affairs in the republic's agro-industrial complex. The extremely unsatisfactory utilization of the natural and economic potential to increase food resources was noted. It was stressed particularly that in recent years, despite enormous investments of state funds and resources, positive changes have not been achieved in Uzbekistan's agriculture.

A year has passed, but the situation is being rectified only slowly. Gross agricultural output has not yet reached even the average annual level of the 11th 5-Year Plan, and return on capital continues to fall. The majority of oblasts, rayons, and farms in the republic are not coping with their duties to the state in terms of grain and are not fulfilling plans for grain, raw cotton, and gourd crops—that is, the main products that determine the republic's position in the country. In this connection the

CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum concluded that the stagnation phenomena in Uzbekistan's agriculture have not yet been overcome.

Uzbekistan's agricultural sector has a special responsibility to the country. The state invests huge funds and resources here. In the last 10 years alone, capital investments have totaled more than R43 billion. Over that period, provision of fixed capital has more than doubled. Naturally, we have a right to expect that Communists and all working people of the republic's agro-industrial complex will make very efficient use of the favorable natural and economic conditions, apply intensive methods and techniques, and work efficiently.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary described in detail the reserves available to Uzbekistan's agro-industrial complex. First and foremost he drew attention to the need resolutely to improve the utilization of irrigated land. All the conditions have been created here to farm intensively and ensure a guaranteed production of cotton, grain, feed, fruit and vegetables, and other output.

At the same time major errors and shortcomings occur in the development of irrigated farming. Because of the poor quality execution of land reclamation work, the lack of a comprehensive approach in construction, and thriftlessness in the utilization of land, over significant areas the planned yield is not obtained. On many land areas salination and swamping continue and water erosion is developing. In terms of the yield of grain crops, for many years the majority of farms have been virtually at a standstill, while in the republic as a whole the output from the fields has fallen from 41 quintals in the 11th 5-Year Plan to 29 quintals last year. The rice yield is 35-38 quintals, which is far lower than, for instance, in Krasnodar Kray and the Crimea, although conditions are no better there. The corn yield has fallen from 56 quintals in the 11th 5-Year Plan to 34 quintals last year, that of cotton from 29.7 to 23 quintals, and that of vegetables from 204 to 188 quintals. And all this is happening despite full supplies of mineral fertilizers, machinery, and human resources. If we continue to farm our irrigated land in this way, we will have to wait a long time for abundant food supplies.

First and foremost it is necessary to direct some 70 percent of appropriations in the republic into reconstruction and ancillary construction work on irrigated land that has already been commissioned. In formal terms, this reorientation of investments has indeed been adopted here.

However, water resources organizations are in no hurry to ensure the priority fulfillment of this work: It is more advantageous to them to continue new construction work. Nor is everything being done in the agro-industrial complex to assign irrigated land areas for reconstruction, and the material and technical resources necessary for these purposes are not always allocated. Nor have the repair and operating associations set up by the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources joined in this work as they should. There are many failures of coordination in their relationship with organs of the agro-industrial complex. As a result in the current year the associations of Fergana, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khorezm, and Kashka-Darya Oblasts failed to cope with plans for contracting work on irrigated land.

As before, matters are being set to rights only slowly on the intrafarm irrigation networks. In most places they are not equipped with water measuring instruments, which make it possible to avoid enormous unproductive losses of water. Everything continues in the old way: The channel is opened, and the water is allowed to pour all over the fields and evaporate in the burning sun. It is impermissible to treat irrigation water resources in this way today.

The USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources (Comrade N.F. Vasilyev) and local agricultural organs must more actively introduce progressive methods into irrigation farming.

Touching on the problem of cotton growing, V.P. Nikonov stressed that the output from the cotton fields cannot be increased without abandoning monoculture and incorporating sowings in a scientifically substantiated crop rotation. In this connection the party Central Committee approved proposals from the republic for a certain reduction in the volume of raw cotton purchases with a view to reducing the sown area and going over to a more efficient system of cultivating this crop. However, these proposals have yet to be put into practice. Areas under cotton in the republic, far from being reduced, were actually increased last year. In 1985 cotton and alfalfa rotations were used on 55 percent of the arable land within the cotton complex, but in 1987 the figure was only 42 percent. What, one wonders, have the leaders of local organs in the republic and scientific institutions been doing, if they are incapable of conveying their correct ideas to the farms?

This year, according to the experts' assessments, the cotton sowings are good everywhere. The possibility exists of harvesting a good crop and not only fulfilling this year's plan, but to a considerable degree making up the shortfalls from previous years. It is in this direction that all organizational work locally must be organized.

In the last 2 years conditions have been favorable for grain crops in the republic. This made it possible slightly to increase grain production, but we must have no illusions. Whereas the gross grain yield last year was 1.8 million tonnes, some 2 million tonnes a year is used merely for mixed feed for livestock raising. Thus grain production must be increased, and at an accelerated pace. Especially the production of corn grain. There are frontrunners in the republic who obtain good yields of this crop. There is Kh. Muydinova on the "Sotsializm" Kolkhoz in Leninskiy Rayon, Andizhan Oblast. She obtained 111 quintals of grain per hectare over 72

hectares. A. Purkhanov's team on the "Savay" Sovkhoz harvested 78 quintals per hectare. And U. Akramov's team on the "Navoi" Kolkhoz in Chinazskiy Rayon achieved 85 quintals. But in the republic as a whole harvests of corn for grain are miserable—in 1986, only 33 quintals per hectare, and in 1987 35.5 quintals. That is 18 percent lower than the average for the 11th 5-Year Plan. Such indicators are the result of thriftlessness and an indifferent attitude to their duties on the part of many farm leaders and specialists and agro-industrial organs. Cadres must be taught, but also it is time to exercise authority.

Uzbekistan is one of the most favorable regions in terms of natural and climatic conditions for the production of fruit and vegetable produce, which is in great demand among the population. However, these conditions, and also a large number of the working-age population, are not properly exploited to increase the production of vegetables, gourd crops, fruit, and berries. The yield of these crops, as well as potatoes, remains very low.

There was severe criticism of work to produce early vegetables both in the open ground and under glass so as to supply the local population and the all-union stocks. All the conditions exist in the republic for making winter sowings and using film coverings to increase the production of vitamin-rich produce and improve its quality.

Work has slackened on the concentration and specialization of orchard farming in the republic, the orchards are scattered, and the protection of fruit and berry plantations against pests and diseases is poorly organized. It has been calculated that 35-40 percent of the potential harvest of fruit crops is lost because of ineffective protective measures.

There are serious mistakes in the structure of fruit and berry crops and the renewal of varieties. The R.R. Shreder science-and-production association, which is responsible for accelerating scientific and technical progress in orchard farming, along with other scientific institutions, must step up concrete assistance to the republic's farms.

One of the worst sore points in the republic's agro-industrial production is still livestock raising. This is carried out intensively, on the whole. Because of this, many products are shipped in from the centralized stocks. Party, soviet, and agricultural organs, V.P. Nikonov stressed, must take resolute measures to ensure the accelerated buildup of the production of livestock output both on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and on personal plots. To this end it is necessary to improve feed production radically and to abandon the pernicious practice whereby areas allocated to feed crops are used for sowing cotton. Last year alone alfalfa sowings were reduced by more than 42,000 hectares because of this. The plan for sowing feed crops, drawn up by the farms themselves, was not fulfilled this year. This applies particularly to the Karakalpak ASSR and Tashkent, Kashka-Darya, Bukhara, and a number of other oblasts. Such actions can only be described as a violation of state and party discipline. The leaders who do this and the party committees must be held strictly to account.

Analyzing the problems of the food sectors of industry, V.P. Nikonov drew attention to the need to supply the population's requirements for food products entirely out of the republic's own resources. Unfortuantely, this task is not being fulfilled. This year, for instance, the republic plans to import from other regions nearly 18,000 tonnes of caramels, 21,000 tonnes of other candies, 6,000 tonnes of toffee, and more than 2,000 tonnes of halva. All this happens because the enterprises' existing capacities are not fully utilized, and the construction of new shops and production lines is too slow.

The attention of party, soviet, and economic organs was also drawn to the need to further strengthen links between science and production and be more active in resolving social issues in the countryside and the training and retraining of cadres. Only by tackling production and social problems as a package, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed, is it possible to speed up the resolution of the tasks facing the agro-industrial complex.

Lvov Oblast Fills Grain Delivery Order

AU2508140188 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 21 Aug 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Grain to the State"]

[Text] Lvov Oblast laborers have filled the order for grain to be sold to the state. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have delivered to procurement centers more than 130,000 tonnes of grain. The greatest contribution has been made by the laborers of Sokalskiy, Radekhovskiy, Samborskiy, and Busskiy Rayons. The sale of grain is continuing.

This year the harvest took place under unfavorable weather conditions, but laborers at many farms proved to be highly skilled and able to find a way out of even very difficult situations. They were able to grow and harvest rather good yields due to the application of advanced economic methods of farming, the achievements of science and advanced experience. High-yield technologies were applied to almost two-thirds of the total area sown with winter crops.

In rainy weather the machine operators applied flexible tactics of harvesting, used equipment skillfully, and organized additional grain drying.

The farms are about to complete grain threshing. They are also treating winter crop seeds, preparing for fall sowing and procuring feed.

Scientific

Secrets Body Simplifies S&T Press Procedures

WA2508150088 Moscow NTR: PROBLEMY I RESHENIYA in Russian 19 Jul-1 Aug 88 p 1

[Announcement: "Rolling Back Secrecy"]

[Text] Several generations of Soviet citizens have lived in an oppressive atmosphere of secrecy. This atmosphere is now being gradually dispelled, and the system's holy of holies has come under attack: the government classification system.

According to information from the Main Administration for the Safeguarding of Military and State Secrets in the Press, the procedures for approving scientific-technical articles for publication in the open press will soon be radically simplified. Unlike the present unwieldy review form which has to be approved at several points along the way, the new form will consist of just one page and will require only one signature for approval. A manager at the laboratory director level will have authority to conduct the review. The governmental and departmental lists of data that are not for open publication will be reviewed.

In upcoming issues of this publication, the editors plan to publish materials on the history of secrecy, the economic aspects of this phenomenon, and the problems of transferring classified technologies to the civilian sector.

'Mir' Cosmonauts Continue Experiments

Begin Pulsar Research

LD2208055888 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov are beginning their 9th month of space flight. Today on board the Mir complex the majority of working time will be devoted to medicine. The cosmonauts will determine their weights and undergo a comprehensive examination of their cardiovascular systems. Experiments on two astrophysical programs are continuing—Roentgen and Mariya. The telescopes of the international orbital observatory will today be directed at the roentgen pulsar Hercules X-1.

Photograph Central Asia

LD2508095188 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 25 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov and Musa Munarev, who had been manning the orbiting Mir space station for 250 days, have been photographing Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan, Soviet Central Asian republics bordering on Afghanistan. The experiment was trying out the method of remote sensing of natural resources from space, which is to figure largely in the work of the Soviet-Afghan space mission to the Mir orbiting complex. [passage omitted]

Military

MiG-29 Profiled Prior to UK Air Show

PM2508112988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Aug 88 Second Edition p 3

[A. Gorokhov report: "MiG-29: First Time at the Show"]

[Text] The traditional, 28th international exhibition organized by the Association of British Aerospace Companies opens at the beginning of September in the British town of Farnborough 50 km southwest of London—the headquarters of the Royal Aviation Institute. The "star" of the Soviet program at the air show will be the MiG-29 frontline fighter developed at the A.I. Mikoyan Experimental Design Bureau.

Some 300,000 visitors, according to estimates of the attendance, will be able to watch displays by the single- and two-seat variants of the Soviet fighter. They are being brought to Britain by Test Pilots First Class Anatoliy Kvochur and Roman Taskayev. They will be joined at Farnborough by the chief pilot of the "firm"—Hero of the Soviet Union Valeriy Mentskiy, meritorious test pilot of the USSR. Last Wednesday all three set off for Farnborough in a Yak-40 airliner in order to carry out a "technical flight"—in short, to have a look at the flight path and the features of this unknown airfield.

The Western mass media have already defined as sensational the appearance of the Soviet warplane at this exhibition, which is rightly considered the "shop window" for modern and future aircraft design and a "fair" for airborne weapons systems: After all, until recently our country had exhibited exclusively civilian equipment.

It is appropriate in this regard to recall that we have always had a tradition of displaying advanced achievements in the field of aircraft design, including military aircraft. Many will recall, for instance, the flyover at Tushino in 1961 or the superb 1967 show at Domodedovo. The fact that this tradition was abandoned in the seventies and eighties is another matter. It is hard to say what was the compelling motive: mistaken economy on aviation fuel or a mistaken desire to limit information, above all with regard to our own public.

In November 1986 the Paris-based AVIATION MAGAZINE INTERNATIONAL wrote: "Until early July little was known about the aircraft detected at a test airfield near Moscow back in 1979 by U.S. intelligence satellites. In early 1986 the plane was identified as the new MiG-29 fighter. At the same time it became known that it was starting to enter Soviet air units.... Between 1 and 4 July 1986 six MiG-29 aircraft from the 'Kubinka' air base near Moscow visited Finland's Rissala airfield, and

Western military observers took a keen interest—to put it mildly—in this fighter that had just entered service and revealed considerable progress in equipment and technology...."

One further quotation. "The six MiG's flew overhead in perfect formation and, having separated, started landing," John Taylor, editor of the prestigious "JANE'S" aircraft reference book, wrote at the time. "Each aircraft is a sum of technical compromises joined and riveted into a flying machine. In that sense the MiG-29 is no exception. One may presume that some central authority—probably the Central Aerohydrodynamics Institute [TsAGI]—dictates the main design parameters for each new generation of Soviet aircraft..."

A fighter is indeed a most complex device embodying thousands of engineering decisions in a limited frame. The MiG-29 belongs to the so-called fourth generation of jet-powered warplanes. It naturally embodies the results of the many years' research carried out by the A.I. Mikoyan Experimental Design Bureau, the TsAGI, the Flight Research Institute, engine production collectives (which designed excellent engines), and other scientific research institutes and plants.

I have known many of the specialists involved one way or another with the "birth" of the MiG-29 for many years. Test Pilot Valeriy Menitskiy, designer Mikhail Valdenberg, and Aleksandr Batkov, administration chief at the USSR Ministry of the Aviation Industry, stressed that the MiG-29, which is above all a defensive machine, had appeared in response to the development overseas of an entire family of strike fighters, among which pride of place goes to the General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon. If one bears in mind the fact that approximately 2,000 multirole F-16's have "spread" all around the world, becoming a destabilizing factor both literally and metaphorically, then MiG-29 fighters are entirely capable of carrying out a deterrent mission in any theater. This is because the MiG-29 not only is not inferior to the F-16, but is superior to it in terms of a number of technical flight characteristics.

The first prototype MiG-29 was flown by the outstanding Soviet test pilot Aleksandr Fedotov. I stress that he has flight-tested a galaxy of warplanes bearing the letters "MiG." Moreover, those who will display the new, "29th" MiG in the skies over Britain are his successors.

...I recently attended the 50th anniversary festivities at the Guards fighter air regiment named for the Lenin Komsomol. The aerobatics and dizzy low-level maneuvers were breathtaking.... The MiG-29's were flown by Air Force servicemen, including quite young lieutenants.